

6th Grade Beginning Orchestra Syllabus

Course Description/Goals:

65315 | Grade 6 Beginning Orchestra (Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass) Students need no musical experience and will try out for placement by the director on one of the four instruments in Orchestra.

Course TEKS/Objectives:

The goal of 6th Grade Beginning Orchestra is to introduce students to the fundamentals of string playing while building a strong foundation in musicianship, technique, and ensemble skills. This course is designed for students with **no prior string experience** and serves as the first step toward participation in Intermediate and Advanced Orchestras in future years. At the teacher's discretion, the course will utilize approved district technology resources, such as Ningenius, Flat, Sightreading Factory, Make Music Cloud, ReadyMade Music, and Tone Savvy. Each category contains specific standards (TEKS) that students are expected to master. [Chapter 117. Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts Subchapter B. Middle School](#)

Course Outline:

Semester 1	Semester 2
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Develop proper posture and instrument care for violin, viola, cello, or bass.

Learn correct left-hand and bowing technique to produce a clear, beautiful tone.

Read and interpret music notation including rhythms, pitches, dynamics, and basic articulations.

Play simple scales, exercises, and songs with accurate pitch, steady rhythm, and appropriate bow control.

Listen and respond within an ensemble, demonstrating the ability to follow the conductor and blend with other musicians.

Gain confidence performing in front of an audience through concerts and informal class performances.

Foster an appreciation for music as both an art form and a means of self-expression.