

# 3/8 and 6/8 Time Signatures (Gr. 5)

Content Area: **Instrumental Music**  
Course(s): **Generic District Course, Instrumental Music**  
Time Period: **Week 36**  
Length: **2 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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The students will discuss the difference between simple meter and compound meter, leading into learning the 3/8 and 6/8 time signatures. The students will learn the relationship of beat and pulse, and apply it to their counting of both time signatures.

## Standards

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VPA.3-5.1.1.5.B.1	Identify the elements of music in response to aural prompts and printed music notational systems.
VPA.3-5.1.1.5.B.2	Demonstrate the basic concepts of meter, rhythm, tonality, intervals, chords, and melodic and harmonic progressions, and differentiate basic structures.
VPA.3-5.1.3.5.B.1	Sing or play music from complex notation, using notation systems in treble and bass clef, mixed meter, and compound meter.
VPA.3-5.1.4.5.B.2	Use evaluative tools, such as rubrics, for self-assessment and to appraise the objectivity of critiques by peers.

## Essential Questions

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1) Why is it necessary for music to have many different types of time signatures?

## Application of Knowledge and Skills...

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## Students will know that...

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- 1) how to tell the difference between simple and compound meter, based on prior knowledge of time signatures.
- 2) how to count and play in 3/8 time.

- 3) how to count and play in 6/8 time.

## **Students will be skilled at...**

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- A) explain the difference between simple and compound meter.
- B) play and count in 3/8 time.
- C) play and count in 6/8 time.

## **Assessments**

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- Unit Test Summative: Exhibition Students will be performance tested on all unit content. 1.1.5.B.1  
1.1.5.B.2 1.3.5.B.1 1.4.5.B.2
- 3/8 Time Signature Examples Formative: Exhibition Students will play examples in 3/8 time. 1.1.5.B.1  
1.1.5.B.2 1.3.5.B.1 1.4.5.B.2
- 6/8 Time Examples Formative: Exhibition Students will play examples in 6/8 time. 1.1.5.B.1 1.1.5.B.2  
1.3.5.B.1 1.4.5.B.2
- Pre-Assessment: What does the 3/8 time signature indicate? Diagnostic: Other written assessments  
Students will describe the 3/8 time based on prior knowledge of time signatures. 1.1.5.B.1 1.1.5.B.2
- Pre-Assessment: What does the 6/8 time signature indicate? Diagnostic: Other written assessments  
Students will describe the 6/8 time signature based on prior knowledge of time signatures. 1.1.5.B.1  
1.1.5.B.2 1.3.5.B.1 1.4.5.B.2

## **Activities**

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- 3/8 Examples: "We Three Kings", "Triple Threat" (3/4 3/8 comparison exercise)
- Pre-assessment: What does the 6/8 time signature indicate?
- 6/8 time signature exercises: "Over the River", "Oodles of Noodles"

## **Activities to Differentiate Instruction**

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- Tempo Variation - Students will play at slower tempo, written tempo, or faster tempo based on ability.
- Varied length of demonstrated examples - A student experiencing difficulty will play a segment of an example, while a student who excels will play more challenging examples.

## **Integrated/Cross-Disciplinary Instruction**

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- Sound production and Pitch (Vocal Music, Science)
- Note Reading (Vocal Music)
- Note Values (Vocal Music, Math)

## **Resources**

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Standard of Excellence, Book 2

*Neil A. Kjos Music Company*