Recorder

Content Area: **Music**
Course(s): **Music in Education**
Time Period: **Generic Time Period**
Length: **20 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Unit Overview

This unit is meant as an introduction to the recorder, the first wind instrument that students will have opportunity with to become acquainted. This is intended as a half-year unit (Marking periods 3 & 4). As part of the unit, students will become familiar with the basic concepts of tone production and common wind instrument fingerings. Including a full-year unit in Grade 4, the recorder will set the stage for students to choose from a variety of wind instruments at the middle school level.

Standards

VPA.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.1.3.5.B.2	Sing melodic and harmonizing parts, independently and in groups, adjusting to the range and timbre of the developing voice.
VPA.1.3.5.B.CS4	Decoding musical scores requires understanding of notation systems, the elements of music, and basic compositional concepts.

Essential Questions

How is producing sound on the recorder similar or different than your normal process for singing?

What are some of the differences between the fingers used on the recorder and that on the piano?

Application of Knowledge: Students will know that...

- the fingerings and layout of wind instruments is different than that of the keyboard, but produces the same treble clef notes.
- tone production for wind instruments requires similar breathe support to singing.

Application of Skills: Students will be able to...

- apply appropriate fingerings to a variety of short songs and exercises for recorder.
- produce a consistent tone on the recorder.

Assessments

- Successfully perform a number of exercises and short songs on recorder.

Suggested Activities

- Large group and individualized practice sessions.
- Have students fill out fingering charts.
- Use breathing exercises as a warm-up.

Activities to Differentiate Instruction

- Guided finger patterns and guides for students struggling with new fingerings of recorder.
- Modify parts (more or less difficult) depending on the abilities of the students.

Integrated/Cross-Disciplinary Instruction

Math: pattern recognition & fractions (note-reading)

Health: Breathing exercises.

Resources

Ready, Set, Play!: A Method Book for Beginning Recorder Students Paperback – Timothy Adams