Piano Skills

Content Area: **Music**
Course(s): **Music in Education**
Time Period: **Generic Time Period**
Length: **Over-arching**
Status: **Published**

Unit Overview

This unit builds upon the 3rd grade unit of piano/keyboard study. Students will continue to develop piano skills, along with intimate understanding of the building blocks of note-reading and compositional structure.

Standards

VPA.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.1.1.5.B.CS1	Reading basic music notation contributes to musical fluency and literacy. Musical intelligence is related to ear training and listening skill, and temporal spatial reasoning ability is connected to listening skill.
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.

Essential Questions

How does playing music improve your understanding of how music is made?

Application of Knowledge: Students will know that...

- performing a piece involves understanding all of the directions in a piece of music (notes, articulations, tempos, etc.).
- practice is an essential part of performance and becoming proficient at an instrument.

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

- perform a piece individually.
- perform pieces and exercises at the keyboard with two hands.

Assessments

- Successfully perform a piece of music on their own.

Suggested Activities

- Set aside group and individual practice times.
- Use audio and visual examples.

Activities to Differentiate Instruction

- Modify and simplify parts for students based on their abilities.
- Allow for slower tempos for student struggling with coordination or motor skills.

Integrated/Cross-Disciplinary Instruction

Math: pattern recognition & fractions (note-reading)

Resources

Bastien - Piano for Beginners

Faber - Piano for Young People