

# Piano Skills

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

## Unit Overview

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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

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|-----------------|--|
| 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

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

## Application of Knowledge: Students will know that...

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- 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...

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

## Assessments

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- Successfully perform a piece of music on their own.

## **Suggested Activities**

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

## **Activities to Differentiate Instruction**

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- 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**

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Math: pattern recognition & fractions (note-reading)

## **Resources**

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Bastien - Piano for Beginners

Faber - Piano for Young People