

# Unit 1: Elements of Music

Content Area: **Arts**  
Course(s): **Music Theory**  
Time Period: **Semester 1 & 2**  
Length: **7 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Standards

---

MU.9-12.1.3B.12prof.Cr1a	Describe how sounds and short musical ideas can be used to represent personal experiences, moods, visual images, and/or storylines.
LA.RST.11-12.4	Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to grades 11-12 texts and topics.
MU.9-12.1.3B.12prof.Pr4b	Analyze how the elements of music (including form) of selected works relate to style and mood and explain the implications for rehearsal or performance.
MU.9-12.1.3B.12prof.Re7b	Analyze aurally and/or by reading the elements of music (including form) of musical works, relating them to style, mood and context, and describe how the analysis provides models for personal growth as a composer, performer and/or listener.
MU.9-12.1.3B.12prof.Re9a	Describe the effectiveness of the technical and expressive aspects of selected music and performances, demonstrating an understanding of the fundamentals of music theory.
SEL.PK-12.4.1	Develop, implement and model effective problem-solving, and critical thinking skills
SEL.PK-12.4.2	Identify the consequences associated with one's actions in order to make constructive choices

## Enduring Understanding

---

1. Effective musicians must be able to read pitch notation with the same ease at which they read letters of the alphabet.
2. The keyboard is essential for understanding intervals.
3. Rhythm is an essential element of music.

## Essential Questions

---

1. How does fluency in note reading lead to effective musicianship?
2. Why do musicians need to recognize the grand staff when their instruments only recognize a portion of it?
3. How can the piano be used to improve musical understanding?

## Knowledges and Skills

---

Identification of pitches on the staff and keyboard

Intervals: half steps versus whole steps

Major scales and scale degrees

Minor scales and scale degrees

The circle of fifths

Relative and parallel keys

Identification of intervals and inversions of intervals

Compound intervals

Chords and inversions

Triads and inversions

Seventh chords and inversions

Staff notation

Note and rest values

Tempo

The beat and grouping of beats

Time signature

Beaming notes

## **Transfer Goals**

---

1. With a primary understanding of the elements of music, students will apply knowledge towards an understanding of the elements of harmonic structure.
2. With a primary understanding of the elements of music, students will independently apply knowledge towards real-world musical endeavors.

## **Resources**

---

Smartboard

Audio System

Computers

Auralia

Musition

Staffpaper

## **Assessments**

---

[Assessments](#)

## **Modifications**

---

[Modifications](#)