

# Unit 2: Dynamics

Content Area: **Unified Arts**  
Course(s): **Music K**  
Time Period: **September**  
Length: **4 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Summary

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During this unit, students will identify different dynamics (loud vs. soft) while performing and listening to music. Students will discover how the loudness or softness of a voice or instrument can add interest, intensity, and expressive qualities. Students will explore various sounds and song literature, including animal sounds and sounds from nature.

## Student Learning Objectives

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Students will learn to...

- identify music as *louder* or *softer* (principles of dynamics) using the traditional terminology *piano* (*p*) and *forte* (*f*).
- perform loud and soft dynamics using their singing voices and classroom instruments.
- listen to pieces of music and describe how the dynamics effect the mood of a piece of music.
- describe their own feelings about pieces of music.

## Essential Questions

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- Can dynamics change the overall mood of a piece of music (example: singing a lullaby loudly)?
- What emotions do you feel when you listen to music?
- What did you enjoy about the music and what can be improved upon?
- How can listening and giving observations make you a better musician?

## Enduring Understandings

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Students will understand that...

- Listening to music and identifying key factors is an important skill for musicians to have
- Artistic expression is tied to its time and culture.

## Application

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Students will be able to independently use their learning to...

- listen to music and describe the musical opposites they hear, Loud/Soft, Fast/Slow, High/Low.
- listen to music and describe the mood of the piece.
- listen to a piece and describe their feelings.

## Skills

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Students will be skilled at...

- providing ample opportunity to listen and explore music from varying cultures and time periods.
- listening to significant works of music written by prolific composers.
- expressing their listening observations through art and sketches.
- providing feedback pertaining to specific listenings.
- providing both positive and constructive critique when listening to recordings and performances.

## Resources

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- Student Materials
- Teacher Materials
- Technology
- Professional Texts
- Lesson Plans
- Listening Maps
- Library of Listening Samples from Varying Cultures and Time Periods
- Professional Organization Resources
- Teacher Collaboration Sharing Sites and Social Media Resources
- Practice Website Links on Mrs. Repsher's CTSD Teacher Page