

# Unit 1: Introduction to the Instruments

Content Area: **Unified Arts**

Course(s): **Band 4 Flutes/Oboes, Band 4 Clarinets, Band 4 Saxophone, Band 4 Trumpets, Band 4 French Horns, Band 4 Trombones, Band 4 Percussion, Band 4 Violins/Cellos/Violas**

Time Period: **September**

Length: **3-4 weeks**

Status: **Published**

## Unit Summary

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Fourth grade is when students are first given the opportunity to learn a traditional band or an orchestra instrument in school. Students are introduced to the instruments from the most basic points; assembly/disassembly, tone production, posture, hand positioning, and basic maintenance. It is important for students to understand the responsibilities that come with signing up to learn an instrument, and that proper care and use are the first steps towards a successful musical experience.

## Standards

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MU.K-12.1.3D.12nov.Cr	Creating
MU.K-12.1.3D.12nov.Cr1	Generating and conceptualizing ideas.
	Imagine
MU.K-12.1.3D.12nov.Cr1a	Create melodic, rhythmic and harmonic ideas for simple melodies as well as chordal accompaniments for given melodies.
MU.K-12.1.3D.12nov.Cr2	Organizing and developing ideas.
MU.K-12.1.3D.12nov.Cr2a	Use standard notation or audio/video recording to document melodic, rhythmic and harmonic ideas for drafts of simple melodies as well as chordal accompaniments for given melodies.

## Student Learning Objectives

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Students will learn about:

- instrument components, case and assembly.
- embouchure (wind instruments).
- hand position.
- posture.
- tone production on components of the instrument (i.e. buzzing, mouthpieces, plucking strings, striking with mallet).
- tone production on the complete instrument.

## Essential Questions

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- What role does my instrument play within an ensemble?
- How does creating and performing music differ from listening to music?
- What is the role of music in my life?
- How does my individual behavior as a performer and/or an audience member effect the musical performance?

## Enduring Understandings

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Students will understand that:

- playing an instrument is a way to express one's self.
- playing an instrument enables one to communicate without words.
- music is not music until humans bring it to life.
- playing an instrument fosters responsibility.

## Application

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Students will be able to independently use their learning to:

- assemble and disassemble their instruments.
- sit with good posture and hold their instruments with correct form.
- follow steps to produce clear and accurate sound on their instruments.

## Skills

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Students will be skilled at:

- recognizing that musical instruments are not toys.
- demonstrating the basic steps of learning an instrument starting with opening the case correctly, proper assembly of parts of, and assembly of the whole instrument.
- executing the basics of embouchure and physical actions, with components of, and on the whole instrument, to create different sounds.
- holding, sitting and playing techniques will also be demonstrated.
- evaluating sound quality, posture, and embouchure to identify areas for improvement
- differentiate between good and poor tone, higher and lower pitch, etc.