

# Unit 2: Development of Proper Singing Techniques(Weeks 1-36)

Content Area: **Template**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Full Year**  
Length: **Full Year**  
Status: **Published**

## **UNIT RATIONALE**

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Students understand the proper use of their vocal mechanism through group vocal lessons that occur in class. This is an ongoing study that can last for the rest of their lives.

In reality, this lesson is the entire year, Sept-June

## **ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS**

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1. What is the proper breathing technique for optimum sing?
2. How do singers sing without an accent?
3. What vowel sounds are best for keeping sound on pitch?
4. How should your embouchure look?

## **STANDARDS**

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### **New Jersey (NJSL) - Grades 9-12 - Visual and Performing Arts - Music Ensembles - Proficient (2020)**

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MU.9-12.1.3C.12prof.Pr4b

Demonstrate, using music reading skills (where appropriate), how compositional devices employed and theoretical and structural aspects of musical works impact and inform prepared or improvised performances.

MU.9-12.1.3C.12prof.Pr5a	Develop strategies to address expressive challenges in a varied repertoire of music, and evaluate their success using feedback from ensemble peers and other sources to refine performances.
MU.9-12.1.3C.12prof.Pr6a	Demonstrate attention to technical accuracy and expressive qualities in prepared and improvised performances of a varied repertoire of music representing diverse cultures, styles, and genres.

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## **New Jersey Core Curriculum - Grade 9 - Visual and Performing Arts (2020) - Music Ensembles**

MU.K-12.1.3C.12int.Pr4b	Demonstrate, using music reading skills (where appropriate), how the setting and formal characteristics of musical works contribute to understanding the context of the music in prepared or improvised performances.
MU.K-12.1.3C.12nov.Pr4c	Identify expressive qualities in a varied repertoire of music that can be demonstrated through prepared and improvised performances.

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## **NEW JERSEY STUDENT LEARNING STANDARDS: CAREER READINESS, LIFE LITERACIES AND KEY SKILLS**

WRK.9.2.12.CAP.2	Develop college and career readiness skills by participating in opportunities such as structured learning experiences, apprenticeships, and dual enrollment programs.
WRK.9.2.12.CAP.3	Investigate how continuing education contributes to one's career and personal growth.

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## **NEW JERSEY STUDENT LEARNING STANDARDS: COMPUTER SCIENCE AND DESIGN THINKING**

CS.9-12.8.1.12.AP.5	Decompose problems into smaller components through systematic analysis, using constructs such as procedures, modules, and/or objects.
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## **PRE-ASSESSMENTS**

-These skills are individual based. Some students are further along than others at the start of the year so assessments are throughout the year and complete

-Have students sing individually.

ely based on personal growth.

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## **INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN**

-These skills will be applied to all repertoire sung within the class as well as auditions for the musical or other singing endeavors as

identified by the student.

-Daily Warm-ups-Breathe using proper posture while using your diaphragm

-Holding your mouth in a round embouchure, tongue placement.

-Using long vowels to keep on pitch as a group, and vowel manipulation.

## MODULE 1

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### Student Learning Intentions (SLI) WALT: (We are learning to...)

-Where air should go in your body.-How a singer should stand.

-"North to South" singing vs. "East to West"

-Vowels A E I O U if sung without embouchure makes the group go off pitch

-How individual voices blend to create one choral sound.

-How to sing phrases within the music that are stylistically appropriate to the piece.

### Student Learning Strategies

-These skills will be applied to all repertoire sung within the class as well as auditions for the musical or other singing endeavors as identified by the student.

-Breathing lessons to teach proper technique of low, diaphragmatic breath.

-Work on vowel shapes within the warm -up and repertoire. Pure vowels chart.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Range extension through scale warm-ups.</li> <li>-Fixing tone to create a present sound.</li> <li>-Blending voices with your neighbor through vowel shape and tone</li> </ul>
<p><b>Success Criteria</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-These skills are individual based. Some students are further along than others at the start of the year so assessments are throughout the year and success is completely based on personal growth.</li> <li>-Show their ability to sing those pitches with learned techniques such as breath support</li> <li>-Convert all knowledge into the performance of the music at the Winter Concert, Spring Concerts, and Graduation performances.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Formative Assessment (drives instructional decisions)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-These skills are individual based. Some students are further along than others at the start of the year so assessments are</li> </ul> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Immediate feedback as students perform within the classroom.</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>throughout the year and success is completely based on personal growth.</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
<p><b>Activities and Resources</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Teacher assessment during choir.</li> <li>-Prescriptions for Choral Excellence by Shirlee Emmons</li> </ul>

-James Jordon texts.

[-https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IPA\\_vowel\\_chart\\_with\\_audio](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IPA_vowel_chart_with_audio)

<https://www.internationalphoneticassociation.org/content/ipa-vowels>

## Suggested Modifications

### English Language Learners

**Native language support:** The teacher provides auditory or written content to students in their native language.

**Adjusted Speech:** The teacher changes speech patterns to increase student comprehension. This could include facing the students, paraphrasing, clearly indicating the most important ideas and speaking more slowly.

**Visuals:** The teacher uses graphics, pictures, visuals, and manipulatives. This helps ELL students better understand and comprehend the subjects at hand.

**Front-Loading Vocabulary:** The teacher front loads vocabulary. This means providing students with a list of important vocabulary words they will need to know for a book, lesson, etc. prior to the lesson being taught. Including pictures to go with the vocabulary words is also very beneficial for the students.

### Special Education Students

**Chunking:** The teacher presents information in a way that makes it easy for students to understand and remember. Chunking is based on the presumption that our working memory is easily overloaded by excessive detail. The best way to deliver information is to organize it into meaningful units. Because students with special needs get overloaded easily, chunking is an effective strategy to use with them.

**Checking for Understanding:** It is important to constantly check for understanding, especially for students who have accommodations. Teachers want to make sure students understand the concepts being covered in a way that makes sense to them.

**Extra time:** The teacher provides students with special needs extra time to complete work or answer questions. It is important to give students enough time to process their thoughts.

**Oral Reading:** The teacher will read work orally to students.

Class work such as tests and literature circles may need to be read aloud to the student.

**Timers:** The teacher will use timers as an instructional tool. The use of timers is beneficial for students who have trouble completing tasks. Timers can be helpful so the student is aware of how much time they have to complete an assignment.

#### **Students with 504 Plans**

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#### **Gifted & Talented Strategies**

**Extensions/Enrichments:** Teachers will provide gifted and talented students with extension/enrichment projects. Students will be challenged to further their understanding, to apply acquired knowledge, and/or to produce something in reference to acquired knowledge.

**Modify/Change Activities:** Teachers will monitor and modify activities to accommodate those students who need to be challenged further. Additional reading, problem-solving, writing, or project work is necessary for those students who are ready to move on at a rate more accelerated than their peers. In this way, G & T students are provided the same opportunity for support as special needs students.

#### **Students at Risk of School Failure**

**Directions or Instructions:** Make sure directions and/or instructions are given in limited numbers. Give directions/instructions verbally and in simple written

format. Ask students to repeat the instructions or directions to ensure understanding occurs. Check back with the student to ensure he/she hasn't forgotten.

**Peer Support:** Peers can help build confidence in other students by assisting in peer learning. Many teachers use the 'ask 3 before me' approach. This is fine, however, a student at risk may have to have a specific student or two to ask. Set this up for the student so he/she knows who to ask for clarification before going to you.

**Alternate or Modified Assignments:** Always ask yourself, "How can I modify this assignment to ensure the students at risk are able to complete it?" Sometimes you'll simplify the task, reduce the length of the assignment or allow for a different mode of delivery. For instance, many students may hand something in, the at-risk student may jot notes and give you the information verbally. Or, it just may be that you will need to assign an alternate assignment.

**Increase One to One Time:** When other students are working, always touch base with your students at risk and find out if they're on track or needing some additional support. A few minutes here and there will go a long way to intervene as the need presents itself.

**Contracts:** It helps to have a working contract between you and your students at risk. This helps prioritize the tasks that need to be done and ensure completion happens. Each day write down what needs to be completed, as the tasks are done, provide a checkmark or happy face. The goal of using contracts is to eventually have the student come to you for completion sign-offs.

**Hands On:** As much as possible, think in concrete terms and provide hands-on tasks. This means a child doing math may require a calculator or counters. The child may need to tape record comprehension activities instead of writing them. A child may have to listen to a story being read instead of reading it him/herself.

**Tests/Assessments:** Tests can be done orally if need be. Break tests down in smaller increments by having a portion of the test in the morning, another portion after lunch and the final part the next day.

**Seating:** Seat students near a helping peer or with quick access to the teacher. Those with hearing or sight issues need to be close to the instruction which often means near the front.

## **REFLECTIONS**

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Pending

## **INTERDISCIPLINARY CONNECTIONS: NEW JERSEY STUDENT LEARNING STANDARDS FOR ELA, SOCIAL STUDIES, SCIENCE AND/OR MATHEMATICS**

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LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R6

Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R7

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.