

# Dec. Music Grade 8 Unit 3: Musician Research

Content Area: **Music**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **December**  
Length: **4-5 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

The students will research a musician of their choice.

## Enduring Understandings

Understanding a musician's personal history helps us to understand their music and why it speaks to us.

## Essential Questions

What personal events formed the music made by my favorite musician, and why?

## Instructional Strategies & Learning Activities

Objectives	Suggested Activities	Evaluations	Resources
The students will research a musician of their choice to write a two page paper and present an oral report	Spend some class time in the library researching chosen artist after teacher approval	Teacher observation	Library
Students will learn about the lives of their chosen musician, most outstanding accomplishments, and most valuable musical contributions	Model a musician report for the class that incorporates the most important facts and best exemplifies the musician's style, genre and historical and cultural aspects	Oral/Aural assessment  Written assessment	Internet  Personal
	Present an oral report stating the	Self evaluation  Peer evaluation	

	<p>research found</p> <p>Present one or two of this musician's best works to the class for discussion and critique</p>		
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## **Integration of Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills**

Students will explore the careers of famous musicians.

WRK.9.2.8.CAP	Career Awareness and Planning
WRK.9.2.8.CAP.1	Identify offerings such as high school and county career and technical school courses, apprenticeships, military programs, and dual enrollment courses that support career or occupational areas of interest.
WRK.9.2.8.CAP.2	Develop a plan that includes information about career areas of interest.
WRK.9.2.8.CAP.3	Explain how career choices, educational choices, skills, economic conditions, and personal behavior affect income.
WRK.9.2.8.CAP.4	Explain how an individual's online behavior (e.g., social networking, photo exchanges, video postings) may impact opportunities for employment or advancement.
TECH.9.4.8.CI	Creativity and Innovation
TECH.9.4.8.CI.4	Explore the role of creativity and innovation in career pathways and industries.

TECH.9.4.8.CT	Critical Thinking and Problem-solving
TECH.9.4.8.DC	Digital Citizenship
TECH.9.4.8.DC.1	Analyze the resource citations in online materials for proper use.
TECH.9.4.8.DC.2	Provide appropriate citation and attribution elements when creating media products (e.g., W.6.8).
TECH.9.4.8.DC.5	Manage digital identity and practice positive online behavior to avoid inappropriate forms of self-disclosure.
TECH.9.4.8.GCA	Global and Cultural Awareness
TECH.9.4.8.GCA.1	Model how to navigate cultural differences with sensitivity and respect (e.g., 1.5.8.C1a).
TECH.9.4.8.GCA.2	Demonstrate openness to diverse ideas and perspectives through active discussions to achieve a group goal.
TECH.9.4.8.IML	Information and Media Literacy
TECH.9.4.8.IML.1	Critically curate multiple resources to assess the credibility of sources when searching for information.
TECH.9.4.8.IML.12	<p>Use relevant tools to produce, publish, and deliver information supported with evidence for an authentic audience.</p> <p>Awareness of and appreciation for cultural differences is critical to avoid barriers to productive and positive interaction.</p> <p>Detailed examples exist to illustrate crediting others when incorporating their digital artifacts in one’s own work.</p> <p>Increases in the quantity of information available through electronic means have heightened the need to check sources for possible distortion, exaggeration, or misrepresentation.</p> <p>Some digital tools are appropriate for gathering, organizing, analyzing, and presenting information, while other types of digital tools are appropriate for creating text, visualizations, models, and communicating with others.</p> <p>Digital communities are used by individuals to share information, organize, and engage around issues and topics of interest.</p> <p>An individual’s strengths, lifestyle goals, choices, and interests affect employment and income.</p> <p>Multiple solutions often exist to solve a problem.</p>

## **Technology and Design Integration**

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Students will use their chromebooks to conduct and present research.

CS.6-8.8.1.8.CS.4	<p>Systematically apply troubleshooting strategies to identify and resolve hardware and software problems in computing systems.</p> <p>Troubleshooting a problem is more effective when knowledge of the specific device along with a systematic process is used to identify the source of a problem.</p>
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## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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LA.W.8.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
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LA.W.8.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.W.8.5	With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
LA.W.8.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others.
LA.W.8.7	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
LA.W.8.8	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
LA.W.8.9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.RI.8.1	Cite the textual evidence and make relevant connections that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
LA.RI.8.3	Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparisons, analogies, or categories).
LA.RI.8.7	Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital text, video, multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea.
LA.RI.8.9	Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) two or more texts that provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.
LA.SL.8.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

## **Differentiation**

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- Understand that gifted students, just like all students, come to school to learn and be challenged.
- Pre-assess your students. Find out their areas of strength as well as those areas you may need to address before students move on.
- Consider grouping gifted students together for at least part of the school day.
- Plan for differentiation. Consider pre-assessments, extension activities, and compacting the curriculum.
- Use phrases like "You've shown you don't need more practice" or "You need more practice" instead of words like "qualify" or "eligible" when referring to extension work.
- Encourage high-ability students to take on challenges. Because they're often used to getting good grades, gifted students may be risk averse.
- **Definitions of Differentiation Components:**
  - Content – the specific information that is to be taught in the lesson/unit/course of instruction.
  - Process – how the student will acquire the content information.
  - Product – how the student will demonstrate understanding of the content.
  - Learning Environment – the environment where learning is taking place including physical location and/or student grouping

**Differentiation occurring in this unit:**

Students will be offered support and challenges as determined by teacher evaluation.

## **Modifications & Accommodations**

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Refer to QSAC EXCEL SMALL SPED ACCOMMODATIONS spreadsheet in this discipline.

### **Modifications and Accommodations used in this unit:**

IEP's and 504 plans will be utilized.

## **Benchmark Assessments**

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**Benchmark Assessments** are given periodically (e.g., at the end of every quarter or as frequently as once per month) throughout a school year to establish baseline achievement data and measure progress toward a standard or set of academic standards and goals.

### **Schoolwide Benchmark assessments:**

Aimsweb benchmarks 3X a year

Linkit Benchmarks 3X a year

### **Additional Benchmarks used in this unit:**

Teacher made pre and post assessments for growth

## **Formative Assessments**

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Assessment allows both instructor and student to monitor progress towards achieving learning objectives, and can be approached in a variety of ways. **Formative assessment** refers to tools that identify misconceptions, struggles, and learning gaps along the way and assess how to close those gaps. It includes effective tools for helping to shape

learning, and can even bolster students' abilities to take ownership of their learning when they understand that the goal is to improve learning, not apply final marks (Trumbull and Lash, 2013). It can include students assessing themselves, peers, or even the instructor, through writing, quizzes, conversation, and more. In short, formative assessment occurs throughout a class or course, and seeks to improve student achievement of learning objectives through approaches that can support specific student needs (Theal and Franklin, 2010, p. 151).

**Formative Assessments used in this unit:**

Teacher observation

Oral/Aural assessment

Written assessment

Self evaluation

Peer evaluation

## **Summative Assessments**

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**Summative assessments** evaluate student learning, knowledge, proficiency, or success at the conclusion of an instructional period, like a unit, course, or program. Summative assessments are almost always formally graded and often heavily weighted (though they do not need to be). Summative assessment can be used to great effect in conjunction and alignment with formative assessment, and instructors can consider a variety of ways to combine these approaches.

**Summative assessments for this unit:**

Teacher observation

Oral/Aural assessment

Written assessment

Self evaluation

Peer evaluation

## **Instructional Materials**

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Library

Internet

Personal recordings

## **Standards**

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MU.6-8.1.3A.8.Cn11	Relating artistic ideas and works within societal, cultural and historical contexts to deepen understanding.
MU.6-8.1.3A.8.Pr4a	Apply collaboratively and personally developed criteria for selecting music of contrasting styles for performance and explain expressive qualities, technical challenges and reasons for choices.
MU.6-8.1.3A.8.Re7c	Identify and compare the context of programs of music from a variety of genres, cultures and historical periods.
MU.6-8.1.3A.8.Re8a	Apply appropriate personally developed criteria to evaluate musical works or performances.
MU.6-8.1.3A.8.Cn10a	Demonstrate how interests, knowledge and skills related to personal choices and intent when creating, performing, and responding to music.
MU.6-8.1.3A.8.Cn11a	Demonstrate understanding of relationships between music and the other arts, other disciplines, varied contexts, and daily life.