

Content Area	Course: Orchestra	Grade Level: Sixth
Grade 6 Orchestra	R14 The Seven Cs of Learning Collaboration Character Citizenship Creativity Curiosity	
Unit Titles	Leng	th of Unit
Instrumental Development	• Ongoing	
Rhythm	 Ongoing 	
Melody & Harmony	• Ongoing	
• Form	• Ongoing	
Style and Expression	• Ongoing	
Composing & Arranging	• 2-3 weeks	
• Improvisation	 Ongoing 	
Performance Technique & Etiquette	 Ongoing 	



Strands	Course Level Expectations*
Create	 The creative ideas, concepts, and feelings that influence musicians' work emerge from a variety of sources. Musicians can generate creative ideas, make creative decisions, and know when to share. Musicians evaluate, and refine their work through openness to new ideas, persistence, and the application of appropriate criteria. Musicians' presentation of creative work is the culmination of a process of creation and communication
Perform	 Performers' interest in and knowledge of musical works, understanding of their own technical skill, and the context for a performance influence the selection of repertoire. Analyzing creators' context and how they manipulate elements of music provides insight into their intent and informs performance. Performers make interpretive decisions based on their understanding of context and expressive intent. To express their musical ideas, musicians analyze, evaluate, and refine their performance over time through openness to new ideas, persistence, and the application of appropriate criteria. Musicians judge performance based on criteria that vary across time, place, and cultures. The context and how a work is presented influence the audience response. Response to music is informed by analyzing context (social, cultural and historical) and how creators and performers manipulate the elements of music
Respond	 Individuals' selection of musical works is influenced by their interests, experiences, understandings, and purposes. The personal evaluation of musical works and performances is informed by analysis, interpretation, and established criteria.
Connecting	 Musicians connect their personal interests, experiences, ideas, and knowledge to creating, performing, and responding. Understanding connections to varied contexts and daily life enhances musicians' creating, performing, and responding.

^{*}Expectations span Grades PK-8 and are based on the National Coalition Core for Art Standards

Inquiry Questions	How does understanding the structure and context of musical works inform performance?		
(Engaging & Debatable)			
Standards*	Perform:		
	Analyze: MU:Pr4.2.E.8a, Present: MU:Pr6.1.E.8a		
Unit Strands & Concepts	 Instrument care and maintenance, Proper sound production (tone), Posture, finger & bow placement, Time signatures, music symbols 		
Key Vocabulary	Students in Grade 6 Orchestra should know the following musical terms in addition to the terms covered in		

chromatic, C major, interlude, resonance, arpeggio, scale degrees, etude, chorale, trio

Length of Unit

Ongoing

Instrumental Development

For more information visit: https://nafme.org/wp-content/files/2014/06/1-Core-Music-Standards-PreK-81.pdf

Year 1, 2, and 3 of the Elementary Orchestra Curriculum:

Unit Title

^{*}Standards based on National Coalition for Core Art Standards

Unit Title	Instrumental Development	Length of Unit	Ongoing

Critical Content: My students will Know	Key Skills: My students will be able to (Do)
 proper care and maintenance of their instrument fingerings as related to student's instrument appropriate posture related to student's instrument The following key signatures: C, G, D, and A Major bow control and techniques appropriate bow placement D & A major arpeggios 	 analyze creators' context and how they manipulate elements of music provides insight into their intent and informs performance. perform C, G, D, and A scales in whole notes, half notes and quarter notes, and eighth notes perform solo and ensemble literature in tune with a characteristic tone, with expression and technical accuracy demonstrate accurate bow, hand, and finger placement demonstrate proper assembly, care, and maintenance of their instrument apply a controlled bow pressure and speed resulting in an even tone throughout all strings utilize proper bow placement to achieve a full and open tone characteristic of designated instrument

Assessments:	Instrument Assessment, Music Symbol Assessment, Performance tasks, Formative assessment of skill development in rehearsal and lessons
Teacher Resources:	Essential Elements for Strings Book 2 - Michael Allen, Robert Gillespie, Pamela Tellejohn Hayes. Arrangements by John Higgins, Performance Repertoire, Solo Repertoire

Unit Title	Rhythm	Length of Unit	Ongoing
Inquiry Questions (Engaging & Debatable)	 How do performers select repertoire? How does understanding the structure and context of musical works inform performance? How do we discern the musical creators' and performers' expressive intent? How can students read and understand a piece of music? 		
Standards	Perform Select: MU:Pr4.1.E.8a, Analyze: MU:Pr4.2.E.8a Respond Interpret: MU:Re8.1.E.8a		
Unit Strands & Concepts	 Rhythm literacy, Rhythm in simple duple meter, Dotted rhythms 		
Key Vocabulary	eighth note, quarter note, half note, whole note and correspond sight reading, dot, dotted half note, pick up note, dotted quarter		

2 sixteenth

Unit Title	Rhythm	Length of Unit	Ongoing

Critical Content: My students will Know	Key Skills: My students will be able to (Do)
 rhythmic combinations including whole notes & rests, half notes & rests, quarter notes & rests, eighth notes the following time signatures: 4/4, C 2/4, 3/4, 	 select repertoire based on performers' interest in and knowledge of musical works, understanding of their own technical skill, and the context for a performance analyze creator's context and how they manipulate elements of music by providing insight into their intent and informing performance provide clues to their expressive intent through their use of elements and structures of music. analyze, perform, and enumerate Level 2 rhythms in various time signatures accurately perform and enumerate the following rhythmic notes and their corresponding rests: whole, half, dotted half, dotted quarter, and quarter in 4/4, ¾ and 2/4 visually and aurally identify the following notes and their corresponding rests: whole, half, and quarter, eighth explain the value of a dot next to a note

Assessments:	Rhythm worksheets, teacher observation of student performance around rhythm, formative assessments
Teacher Resources:	Essential Elements for Strings Book 2 - Michael Allen, Robert Gillespie, Pamela Tellejohn Hayes. Arrangements by John Higgins, Sight Reading Factory, Performance Repertoire, Solo Repertoire

Unit Title	Melody & Harmony	Length of Unit	Ongoing	
Inquiry Questions (Engaging &	 How do performers select repertoire? How does understanding the structure and context of musical works inform 			
Debatable)	performance?			
	 How do we discern the musical creators' and performers' expressive intent? 			
	_	 How can students read and understand a piece of music? 		
	 What are the basic elements of music reading? 			
Chandanda	How is musical notation interpreted and translated into musical performance?			
Standards	Perform: Select: MU:Pr4.1.E.8a, Analyze: MU:Pr4.2.E.8a			
	Respond:			
	Interpret: MU:Re8.1.E.8a			
Unit Strands &	Melody vs. harmony,			
Concepts	 Solfege, phrasing, 			
	 Sight-singing and sight reading, 			
	Major vs. minor			
Key Vocabulary	Students in Grade 6 Orchestra should know the following	g musical terms	in addition to the	
	terms covered in Year 1, 2, and 3 of the Elementary Orchestra Curriculum:			
	Major, minor, enharmonic, chromatic, countermelody			

Unit Title	Melody & Harmony	Length of Unit	Ongoing

Critical Content: My students will Know	Key Skills: My students will be able to (Do)
 melodic vs. harmonic passages the characteristics of melodic contour within typical middle school repertoire common chord progressions found in middle school repertoire dissonance vs. consonance solfege syllables that align with the notes learned on the instrument 	 select repertoire based on performers' interest in and knowledge of musical works, understanding of their own technical skill, and the context for a performance. analyze creator's context and how they manipulate elements of music by providing insight into their intent and informing performance provide clues to their expressive intent through their use of elements and structures of music analyze melodic vs. harmonic lines in their music analyze and perform simple harmonic lines using I IV and V chords sing melodies using solfege syllables in major identify and demonstrate the appropriate fingerings for notes of the staff interpret musical notation and translate into instrumental performance

Assessments:	Performance assessments of solo and ensemble repertoire, formative assessments
Teacher Resources:	Essential Elements for Strings Book 2 - Michael Allen, Robert Gillespie, Pamela Tellejohn Hayes. Arrangements by John Higgins, Sight Reading Factory, Performance Repertoire, Solo Repertoire

Unit Title	Form	Length of Unit	Ongoing
Inquiry Questions (Engaging & Debatable)	 How do performers interpret musical works? How do individuals choose music to experience? How do we discern the musical creators' and performer 	rs' expressive inten	t?
Standards	Perform: Interpret: MU:Pr4.3.E.8a Respond: Select: MU:Re7.1.E.8a, Analyze: MU:Re7.2.E.8a, Interpret: MU:Re8.1.E.8a		
Unit Strands &	Musical Form,		
Concepts	Musical Endings		
Key Vocabulary	round/ canon, AB (binary), ABA (Ternary), Rondo, Theme & Va al Fine	ariation, 1st and 2n	d Endings, DC al Fine, DS

Unit Title	Form	Length of Unit	Ongoing

Critical Content: My students will Know	Key Skills: My students will be able to (Do)
 response to music is informed by analyzing context (social, cultural, and historical) and how creators and performers manipulate the elements of music creators and performers provide clues to expressive intent through the use of elements and structures of music common forms such as AB (Binary), ABA (ternary), Rondo, and Theme and Variation 	 make interpretive decisions based on their understanding of context and expressive intent select musical works that is influenced by their interests, experiences, understandings, and purposes provide clues to their expressive intent through the use of elements and structures of music analyze the form of typical middle school repertoire and professional performances

Assessments:	Teacher observation, formative assessments
Teacher Resources:	Essential Elements for Strings Book 2 - Michael Allen, Robert Gillespie, Pamela Tellejohn Hayes. Arrangements by John Higgins Sight Reading Factory Professional Recordings, Performance Repertoire, Solo Repertoire

Unit Title	Style & Expression	Length of Unit	Ongoing
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Inquiry Questions (Engaging & Debatable)	 How do performers interpret musical works? When is a performance judged ready to present? how do context and the manner in which musical work is presented influence an audience response? How do individuals choose music to experience? How do we discern the musical creators' and performers' expressive intent? How do you distinguish between detached and slurred notes? 		
Standards	Perform; Interpret: MU:Pr4.3.E.8a, Present: MU:Pr6.1.E.8a, Select: MU:Re7 Respond: Analyze: MU:Re7.2.E.8a, Interpret: MU:Re8.1.E.8a	′.1.E.8a	
Unit Strands & Concepts	Dynamics,Articulation,Phrasing		
Key Vocabulary	Students in Grade 6 Orchestra should know the following musical Year 1, 2, and 3 of the Elementary Orchestra Curriculum: vivo, rallentando, ritardando, pianissimo, fortissimo	terms in addition t	to the terms covered in

Unit Title	Style & Expression	Length of Unit	Ongoing

Critical Content: My students will Know	Key Skills: My students will be able to (Do)
 response to music is informed by analyzing context (social, cultural, and historical) and how creators and performers manipulate the elements of music the following articulation markings: accents, slurs, staccato, legato, hooked bowings the following dynamics: pianissimo, piano, mezzopiano, mezzoforte, forte, fortissimo, crescendo, decrescendo musical symbols, including, but not limited to: fermata, sfz, fp, rit 	 make interpretive decisions based on their understanding of context and expressive intent select musical works based on interests, experiences, understandings and purposes provide clues to their expressive intent through the use of elements and structures of music perform expressively, with appropriate interpretation and technical accuracy, and in a manner appropriate to the audience and context attach each note in a detached passage using proper bow placement with continuous bow speed connect each note in a slurred passage using continuous bow stroke aurally and visually distinguish between detached and slurred passages

Assessments:	Formative assessments, student performance, student self-assessment
Teacher Resources:	Essential Elements for Strings Book 2 - Michael Allen, Robert Gillespie, Pamela Tellejohn Hayes. Arrangements by John Higgins, Sight Reading Factory, Performance Repertoire, Solo Repertoire

Unit Title	Composing & Arranging	Length of Unit	Ongoing
Inquiry Questions (Engaging & Debatable)	 How do musicians generate creative ideas? How do musicians make creative decisions? How do musicians improve the quality of their creative wo 	rk?	
Standards	Create: Imagine: MU:Cr1.1.E.8a Plan and Make: MU:Cr1.2.E.a Evaluate & Refine: MU:Cr3.1E.8a		
Unit Strands & Concepts	Rhythmic Composition,Melodic Composition		
Key Vocabulary	composer, arranger, notation		

Unit Title	Composing & Arranging	Length of Unit	Ongoing

Critical Content: My students will Know	Key Skills: My students will be able to (Do)
 the creative ideas, concepts, and feelings that influence musicians' work emerge from a variety of sources musicians creative choices are influenced by their expertise, context, and expressive intent notation elements necessary for successful musical composition 	 evaluate and refine their work through openness to new ideas, persistence, and the application of appropriate criteria create an original piece of music that can be repeated and preserved either in notation or in a sound recording apply concepts of composition procedures including the development of musical ideas compose an 12-20 measure composition for their instrument with appropriate clef, meter, key signature, tempo and style including articulations and dynamics

Assessments:	Original Composition Project
Teacher Resources:	Essential Elements for Strings Book 2 - Michael Allen, Robert Gillespie, Pamela Tellejohn Hayes. Arrangements by John Higgins

Unit Title	Improvisation	Length of Unit	Ongoing
Inquiry Questions (Engaging & Debatable)	 How do musicians generate creative ideas? How do musicians make creative decisions? How do musicians improve the quality of their creative when is creative work ready to share? 	work?	
Standards	Create: Imagine: MU:Cr.1.1.E.8a, Plan and Make: MU:Cr2.1.E.8a Evaluate & Refine: MU:Cr3.1.E.8a, Present: MU:Cr3.2.E.8a		
Unit Strands &	What is Improvisation?		
Concepts	Blues Scale		
Key Vocabulary	Improvisation, Blues scale, spontaneous, criteria		

Unit Title	Improvisation	Length of Unit	2-3 Weeks

Critical Content: My students will Know	Key Skills: My students will be able to (Do)	
 the creative ideas, concepts, and feelings that influence musicians' work emerge from a variety of sources musicians creative choices are influenced by their expertise, context, and expressive intent musicians presentation of creative work is the culmination of a process of creation and communication 	 evaluate and refine their work through openness to new ideas, persistence, and the application of appropriate criteria present creative work as the culmination of a process of creation and communication create and perform spontaneously or in-the-moment, based on guidelines provided by the instructor analyze melodic concepts improvise over a blues progression 	

Assessments:	Student improvisation performance in all known keys at this level	
Teacher Resources:	Essential Elements for Strings Book 2 - Michael Allen, Robert Gillespie, Pamela Tellejohn Hayes. Arrangements by John Higgins	

Unit Title	Performance Etiquette	Length of Unit	Ongoing

Inquiry Questions	How do musicians improve the quality of their performance?	
(Engaging &	When is a performance judged ready to present?	
Debatable)	 How do context and the manner in which musical work is presented influence audience response? 	
	How do we discern the musical creators' and performers' expressive intent?	
	How do we judge the quality of musical work(s) and performance(s)?	
	What are proper practice techniques?	
	How is musical notation interpreted and translated into musical performance?	
	What is the importance of the conductor?	
Standards Perform:		
	Rehearse, Evaluate & Refine: MU:Pr5.1.E.8a, Present: MU:Pr6.1.E.8a	
	Respond:	
	Interpret: MU:Re8.1.E.8a, Evaluate: MU:R9.1.E.8a	
Unit Strands &	Audience Etiquette,	
Concepts	Performance Etiquette,	
	Performance Reflection	
Key Vocabulary rehearsal marks (numbers or letters), audience, conductor, stage, curtain, pit orchestra, stage right, stage		
	left, bow, performance reflection, balance, blend	

Unit Title	Performance Etiquette	Length of Unit	Ongoing

Critical Content: My students will Know	Key Skills: My students will be able to (Do)
 what appropriate audience and performer behavior looks and sounds like appropriate times to applaud during a performance appropriate times to exit the performance hall during a performance intended purpose of selected repertoire 	 express their musical ideas through analyzing, evaluating and refining their performance over time through openness to new ideas, persistence, and the application of appropriate criteria judge performance based on criteria that vary across time, place and cultures. This context and how a work is presented influence the audience response provide clues to their expressive intent through the use of elements and structures of music evaluate personal work and performances by analysis, interpretation and established criteria using musical terminology apply individual instrumental skills and techniques to a varied repertoire of ensemble, method book and supplemental literature distinguish between and perform various musical styles (genres) demonstrate appropriate audience and performer etiquette for all performances both in class and for live audience apply the principle of teamwork and cooperation to achieve a common goal in the ensemble setting develop ensemble skills including following the conductor, balancing/blending within the ensemble with attention to intonation demonstrate and discuss sequential and appropriate warm up, tuning and practice techniques.

Assessments: • Student Performance, Student Created Performance Rubric, Performance Self-Reflection	
Teacher Resources:	Essential Elements for Strings Book 2 - Michael Allen, Robert Gillespie, Pamela Tellejohn Hayes. Arrangements by John Higgins, Professional Recordings