

Music

Kindergarten

Kindergarten students are involved in music in many ways. They sing, play instruments, compose using body percussion (snaps, claps, pats and stomps), learn to recognize basic music patterns, and move to music.

Primary emphasis is on:

- Making music by both singing and playing instruments
- Response to music through purposeful movement
- Experimentation with different percussion instruments and sounds

SKILL THEMES

In kindergarten we focus on:

- Vocally matching pitch
- Performing rhythmic patterns
- Appropriate audience behavior



Music that is sung is usually familiar to students. We talk about the difference between whispering, talking and singing and we practice using our singing voices.

The following are the values and outcomes of the Music Program at North Hampton School:

- ◆ Value making music and attending musical performances as a rewarding and enjoyable lifelong activity.
- ◆ Value different kinds of music and the music making of others.
- ◆ Sing different kinds of music accurately, expressively and in a healthy manner.
- ◆ Perform different kinds of music accurately and expressively on an instrument(s).
- ◆ Create music and improvise music.
- ◆ Read and write music with accepted notation.
- ◆ Listen to, and hear with understanding, music of many kinds.
- ◆ Evaluate musical works and musical performances by employing accepted musical standards and with an understanding of music theory.
- ◆ Experience, appreciate and understand different types of musical performances.
- ◆ Apply an understanding of the history, periods, and styles of music to music heard and performed; relate music to the other arts and to other disciplines outside the arts.

Music

Grade 2

In Grade 2 students expand on learned basic rhythm and melodic concepts and skills from Grade 1. Each lesson includes a component of rhythm learning, melody, singing songs, music reading and music listening. Music games and



dances are played that reinforce the

lessons skills. Musicals, Operas and Composers are studies through the Classical Kids series of CD's

and videos. The goal of this is to further students understanding of these musical forms to aide in their become life long appreciators of them. A show is always more enjoyable when you know the story and what is going on- especially Opera and Ballet!

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Grade 4

Grade 4 Music students continue with recorder playing and reinforcing and expanding the music reading skills learned in Grade 3. As the year progresses, a studio approach to class-rotating stations and activities- is mixed with whole class study units such as an integrated unit with Physical Education

classes based on the percussion group STOMP. Students



compose melodies for recorder using the music composing computer lab and assemble an original class recorder book. They then move on to

composing melodies and accompaniments for more than one instrument. Music listening and learning about different musical forms, shows and composers continues. Students are also encouraged to perform for the class and at holiday time we spread good cheer as a class through caroling at local nursing homes.

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- ◆ **Read and write music with accepted notation.**
- ◆ **Listen to, and hear with understanding, music of many kinds.**
- ◆ **Evaluate musical works and musical performances by employing accepted musical standards understand music theory.**
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Music

Band 5-8

Learning to play a musical instrument offers a lot of benefits. If there's one thing you should learn in your lifetime, it's how to play an instrument. Here are 5 reasons why:

Playing A Musical Instrument Makes You Smarter

Many studies have been conducted on the effects of music to the brain. Scientists say that children who are exposed to music, or those who play an instrument, do better in school than those who don't. Recent research suggests exposure to music may benefit a child's reading age, IQ and the development of certain parts of the brain. Adults can benefit from learning to play an instrument too because it helps the mind to be alert and remain active eventually helping to sharpen the memory.

It Teaches Discipline

Learning to play an instrument is like learning to speak

another language and it can be challenging at times. One of the qualities musicians possess is discipline. You have to be disciplined in order to master playing your instrument. You have to set time each day to



practice, practice and practice some more.

Playing A Musical Instrument Relieves Stress

We all have days when we are so stressed out and we just want to take a break from it all. Have you ever noticed that when you hear soft, soothing music you feel more relaxed? Playing an instrument can do that and more, especially if you're the one playing. Music is one of life's simple joys; it helps calm the mind.

Sense of Achievement

If you're a beginner learning to play your first piece, it can be frustrating. But once you've mastered it, the satisfaction you'll feel is priceless. Never mind if it's just a simple piece, believe me you'll never forget the first piece you've mastered. You are one more step closer to achieving your goal and that is certainly something to be proud of.

Playing A Musical Instrument is Fun

Sure it can be a lot of hard work but there is no denying playing an instrument is fun. Once you get better at it, opportunities will arise for you to share your newly learned skill with your family and friends. Who knows, you may also consider playing professionally in the future. Playing a musical instrument opens up a lot of good possibilities that will surely enrich your life.

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Music Assessment:

Students are assessed by their efforts not their inherent musical talent. Process is valued over product, while at the same time students are encouraged to make certain items their personal best for presentation. Growth is looked for and captured in many different areas i.e. success with a skill, or perhaps being less nervous at a concert. To this end students in the NHS Music Program are assessed:

- Through teacher observations.
- Self-reflections.
- Student teacher conference
- audio/video recording.
- Peer teaching.
- Formal grades/report cards in grades 6-8.

Formal Assessment will generally be based on the basic, proficient, advanced scale or non-participatory for grade 5 to 8.

The basic achievement corresponds to getting a "1" or a "2" on the report card or below standard.

Proficient is equivalent to meeting the standard that has been set or the current "3" on the report card.

Advanced level is working beyond the standard or what is now a "4" on the report card.

Non-participatory is self-explanatory. If a student does not participate, this will be indicated.