

PETERS TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
CORE BODY OF KNOWLEDGE

BAND

GRADE 4

For each of the sections that follow, students may be required to understand, apply, analyze, evaluate or create the particular concepts being taught.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to playing a band instrument. The course begins with how to make an educated decision in choosing an instrument to play. Then students learn everything from how to open the case and assemble the instrument to playing as part of an ensemble in a concert.

STUDY SKILLS

- Adequately prepare for quizzes and texts.
- Practice instrument skills for performance.

MAJOR UNIT THEMES:

1. INSTRUMENT ASSEMBLY AND CARE

- Assemble and disassemble musical instruments.
- Care for the musical instrument.

2. PRACTICE TECHNIQUES

- Create an adequate practice environment at home.
- Schedule adequate practice time.
- Record practice in a journal.

3. TONE PRODUCTION

- Practice using proper breath support.
- Develop embouchure musculature.
- Produce an acceptable tone quality on the instrument.

4. ARTICULATION

- Use the tongue to begin sounds with ‘T’ sound for a crisp attack.
- Use the tongue to begin sounds with ‘D’ sound for a softer attack.
- Slur two or more notes with continuous air.

5. NEW NOTES, FINGERINGS, AND POSITIONS

- Press the correct keys or valves or find the correct slide position to play pitches from standard musical notation.
- Use the correct lip tension and air speed to play the desired pitch from a given valve combination or slide position.

6. MUSICAL NOTATION

- Identify notes on the treble staff.
- Perform melodies by reading notation on the treble staff.

7. PERFORMANCE

- Play as a member of an instrument section.
- Count rests accurately.
- Play in a concert setting.

MATERIALS (and Supplemental materials used in course):

Tradition of Excellence Book and CD, *First Performance*, Band instruments, music stands, Smart Music, projector

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