

8th Grade Curriculum Map

Keyboards

An introduction to playing the keyboard - students learn the notes from C to G in the bass and treble clefs and perform a solo or duet keyboard piece.

1	Introduction to the Keyboard An introduction the keyboard and playing Middle C.	6	More on Chords: 3 Fingers C, F, G, + Students play duets with melody parts.
2	Notes C and D Students learn notes C and D in bass and treble clefs.	7	Your Choice Students choose solo, duet, trio, or ensemble for final performance.
3	C, D, E, and F Students play C, D, E, and F in bass and treble clefs.	8	Your Choice Part 2 Students practice their performance piece alone or in groups.
4	C, D, E, F, and G Students play C, D, E, F, and G in bass and treble clefs.	9	Your Choice Part 3 Students practice their performance piece alone or in groups and perform peer-to-peer evaluations.
5	Chords: 3 Fingers C, F, and G Students learn and play pieces with 3 simple chords.	10	The Final Performance Students perform their final piece alone or in groups for a live audience.

Musical Styles

Extend students understanding of musical styles jazz, rock and hip-hop through listening, analyzing, and describing.

21	Introduction to Styles and Jazz An introduction to Jazz, Rock and Hip-Hop styles, focusing on Jazz.	26	Hip-Hop and Beatboxing Students practice beatboxing, rapping, and freestyling - creating beats with the Quaver Drum Kit App.
22	Improvising a Jazz Piece Students learn to play and improvise a Jazz piece on the keyboard or Quaver Keyboard App.	27	Choose your Style Students choose a Jazz, Hip-Hop, or Rock piece to complete for their performance.
23	Basics of Rock Explore the history and foundations of Rock music.	28	Working on our Piece Group work on the final project piece.
24	Hooks, Fills, and Improvising Students create hooks, fills, and improvisations on the guitar or Quaver Guitar App.	29	Dress Rehearsal Students rehearse their performance and perform peer-to-peer evaluations.
25	Basics of Hip-Hop Explore the history and foundations of Hip-Hop music.	30	Final Performance Performance of group pieces and final evaluation.

Asian Percussion

An introduction to the percussion instruments of Asia and compose and perform their own Taiko drumming piece.

11	Drums of India An introduction to the history and instruments of Asia with a focus on Indian percussion.	16	Taiko Drumming C Section Students complete the B section of their piece.
12	Drums of the Middle East Students explore percussion instruments of the Middle East including the doumbek, tar, finger cymbals, and djembe.	17	Finishing Touches - Program Notes Students complete the C section of their piece.
13	Drums of Japan Students learn how musical culture spread through Asia throughout history.	18	Finishing Touches - Staging Options Students put the piece together and add movement choreography.
14	Taiko Drumming A Section An introduction to the history, geography and percussion instruments of Japan with a focus on Taiko Drumming.	19	Dressing the Rehearsal Students practice their performance piece alone or in groups and perform peer-to-peer evaluations.
15	Taiko Drumming B Section Students begin creating a Taiko drumming piece with an A, B, and C section.	20	Final Presentations and Evaluation! Students perform their final piece alone or in groups for a live audience.

Giant Jam

This finale project includes a group performance of one, two, or four measure ostinatos played together in a giant jam piece.

31	What is a Jam? An introduction to the basics of Jamming.	36	Composing our Giant Jam Students create a jam piece using drums.
32	Jamming with Bass Instruments Students create a bass and rhythmical foundation on which they will build a good jam session.	37	Arranging the A Section Student groups formalize their favorite jamming loops to write a giant jam piece.
33	Jamming with Treble Instruments Students use the D Minor pentatonic scale and Boomwhackers® to create a treble jam.	38	Arranging the B Section Students arrange the loops for their giant jam piece.
34	Jamming with Found Sounds Students use found sounds to create a good jamming session.	39	Arranging the C Section Students rehearse their giant jam and use the arranging grid to notate it.
35	Jamming with Drums Students add their treble and found sounds jams to their foundation piece.	40	Final Presentations Student groups perform their giant jams for an audience and present their jamming grids.