

**Benton Community Schools
Standards and Benchmarks
Elementary (Grades 5 & 6) Instrumental Music**

Standard 1: Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.

Benchmarks:

- a. Students demonstrate proper posture, finger and hand positions.
- b. Students demonstrate proper instrument playing positions.
- c. Students define and demonstrate proper breathing techniques.
- d. Students perform with musical expression and technical accuracy level-appropriate literature and studies.
- e. Students describe and demonstrate a characteristic embouchure (proper formation of lips, mouth, teeth, and tongue) and tone quality appropriate for the instrument.
- f. Students identify and demonstrate musical phrases.
- g. Students demonstrate an ability to match pitch.
- h. Students demonstrate procedures for basic care, cleaning, lubrication, and maintenance of the instrument and case.
- i. Percussion students demonstrate an ability to perform all appropriate rudiments and skills necessary for the music being studied.

Standard 2: Reading and notating music.

Benchmarks:

- a. Students define and demonstrate values for whole, dotted half, half, dotted quarter, quarter and eighth notes and rests in 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, common time and all breve (2/2) time signatures.
- b. Students define and demonstrate dynamics ranging from pianissimo to fortissimo.
- c. Students define and demonstrate common tempo markings found in their ensemble and lesson materials.
- d. Students define and demonstrate ties, slurs, and other articulation patterns as presented in ensemble and lesson materials.
- e. Students define and demonstrate pitch names and appropriate standard and alternate fingerings for pitches.

Standard 3: Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.

Benchmarks:

- a. Students complete composition and music writing exercises within their lesson books.

Standard 4: Evaluating music and music performances.

Benchmarks:

- a. Students develop criteria for evaluating quality and effectiveness of music performances.
- b. Students evaluate the quality and effectiveness of their own performances and offer constructive suggestion for improvement.

Standard 5: Understanding music in relation to history, culture, and society.

Benchmarks:

- a. Students identify various uses of music in their daily experiences and describe characteristics that make certain music suitable for each use.
- b. Students demonstrate audience behavior appropriate for the context and style of music performed.
- c. Students demonstrate an awareness of possible music careers, hobbies, and opportunities available to them in the future.
- d. Students demonstrate proper conduct at lessons, rehearsals, and performances.
- e. Students demonstrate regular practice and preparation of the assigned music, as is necessary to master the assigned music, and further the abilities of both the individual and the ensemble.