BEAT THE STRESS

EASY ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES FOR MUSIC CLASS

Stacy Werner - April 2025 - stacy@musicplay.ca <u>Link to Slides</u>

What We Will Learn:

- Align your curriculum outcomes with relevant activities on Musicplay Online.
- Identify and integrate assessment tools available on Musicplay Online into your teaching practice.
- Explore practical and accessible assessment strategies to implement in your classroom.

Questions to Consider:

- 1. What does your district curriculum specify to teach?
 - Choose expectations based on the curriculum's priorities.
- 2. What reporting will you do, and how many expectations can you assess each term?
 - Focus on the most important ones (e.g., steady beat, pitch matching, rhythm reading).
- 3. How much teaching time do you have?
 - Select what you can realistically teach within the available time.

Assessment Planning Tips:

- K-6 music students typically have 30-60 minutes per week, so assessment time is limited!
 - 1. Plan Assessments Ahead: Include assessments in your yearly plan.
 - 2.Focus on One Concept per Term: Assess one musical concept per term (e.g., steady beat in term one) instead of trying to assess everything.
 - 3. Align with School/District Requirements: Know what outcomes are required on the report card (e.g., only 3 outcomes to assess).
 - 4.Don't Over-Assess: Keep the number of outcomes manageable.
 - 5. Assess Both Skills and Concepts:
 - Skills: Singing, playing instruments, moving, listening, reading/writing, and creating.
 - Concepts: Beat/rhythm, pitch, expression (dynamics, tempo, articulation), tone color (timbre), and form.

Formative

 Ongoing evaluations used during the learning process to monitor student progress and provide feedback for improvement. It helps adjust teaching methods and support students' learning needs.

Summative

 A final evaluation, typically at the end of a unit or course, that measures student learning and achievement, often used for assigning grades or determining overall performance.



Concepts vs. Skills:

Knowing the content doesn't necessarily mean students can effectively apply or perform that
concept in their classroom music-making. Both understanding and practical ability are equally
important, and it's crucial to consider both in your assessment practices to get a well-rounded
view of student progress.

Evidence of Learning:

Performance Evidence:

• Recorded or live performances (singing, playing instruments, rhythm exercises) to assess melody, rhythm, and musical expression.

Written Evidence:

• Completed worksheets, rhythm writing, and music theory exercises to assess knowledge of musical notation, rhythms, and terms.

Observation:

 Teacher anecdotal notes and participation checklists to track student behavior, engagement, and musical skills during class activities.

Creative Projects:

• Student drawings, stories, or compositions that reflect their understanding of music concepts like mood, tempo, and dynamics.

Audio/Video Evidence:

• Audio or video recordings of performances, group activities, or student responses to show progress in musical skills and understanding.

Listening and Responding:

• Verbal or written responses to music, identifying elements like tempo, dynamics, and mood.

Group Collaboration:

• Evidence from ensemble activities, group performances, and collaborative projects.

Peer/Self-Assessment:

• Student reflections and peer feedback, where students assess their own or others' performance, offering insight into their self-awareness and growth.

Lesson Planning Section:

- Overview Section:
- Concert and Festivals Permissions
- Music Advocacy Posters (English and French)
- Equity and Diversity info
- Scope and Sequence
- What We Will Learn posters (English and French)
- Substitute Plans
- Year Plans
- Highlights easy way to see John Jacobson content
- Curriculum Correlations
- I Can Statements!

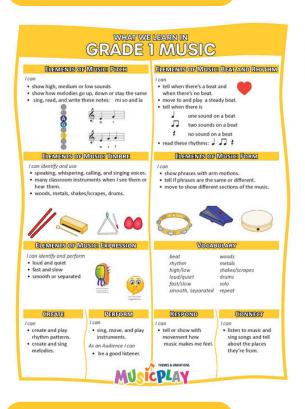
I can use symbols to show my musical ideas.

I can use suggestions to help me refine my musical ideas.

MU-C/1.1.1a With limited guidance, discuss and apply personal, peer, and tracher feedback to refine personal music



What We Will Learn Posters:















Assessment Planning Tools:

Assessments

- Grade 3 Assessment / Tracking Chart
- Grade 3 Assessment / Tracking Chart (.docx)
- Music Self Assessment color emoji
- **B** Evaluate a Performance Worksheet
- Select Grade Level
- Find assessment tools under supporting resources.
- PDF Includes rubrics and editable documents.

Beat and Rhythm Checklist & Rubries

BEAT AND RHYTHM ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST GR. 1

Name	Beat - taps steady beat on body	Beat - taps steady beat on beat chart	Beat - moves to show steady beat	Beat - plays steady beat on instru- ment	Steps beat, claps rhythm (or plays)	Read (says) 4 beat patterns	Clap & Plays	Reads rhythm of a song	Moves to show accented beat 2/4 4/4
	yes/no	yes/no	yes/no	yes/no	rubric	rubric	yes/no	yes/no	yes/no

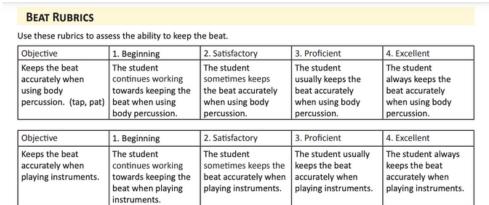
Grade 2	Beat/Rhythm	Melody Harmony	Expression Multicultural	Instruments	Listening Form/ Culture	Creating Movement	Themes Songs
Sept	* beat * J J Engine * J J Obwisana J Hill	high - middle - low I Can Sing s-m Hill, Engine Engine Is m Bounce High	* fast/slow, loud/ soft Poor Little Bug, John Jacob, Obwisana - Africa	Orff Hill, Engine, Bounce	environmental sounds, beat, fast/ slow, high	* move to show high Listen #6 * move to drum in 2s and 3s	Names Welcome
Oct	* J_J = J (Tony) * accent # Icka J Falling Leaves	practice is m prepare do Time to Play harmony: Round	fast-slow Tony	families fo u/p Time to Play * create effects Birds and Bats Orff - Time to Play	fast-slow LCD #8 Percussion family Listen #9, 10 Listen #12 - fireworks	create effects Birds and Bats (22) Dramatize Fossils	Fall Halloween
Nov	practice J J J J rhythm erase dictation	present do - Flea practice l-s-m: Starlight	Sing expressively Sing for Peace Make a Difference Napoléon	Orff - Starlight	Brass Family * show video Listen #13	* create movements This Way Thataway	Peace
Dec	J Who's That Pease Porridge present J	practice is m d Holiday Round prepare re: #41	O Hanukkah	u/p - Ring the Bells u/p=unpitched perc Orff	Nutcracker Listen #15, 14 Sleighride, Mozart	Ice Sculptures	Holiday Fun - Hanukkah - Christmas
Jan	Practice	practice Is m d	Japanese New Year Song	u/p I Like to Play Orff #	Bach - read and listen Listen #17-20 Video - Bach's Fight for Freedom	create u/p rondo I Like to Play create movement: Oliver Twist	Bach
Feb	Practice	practice is m d I See the Moon flashcards	Sing sea songs Gitsigakomim	u/p Gitsigakomim Orff - I see Moon	Woodwind Family	create food rondo create tone bar acc for I See the Moon	Going to Sea Valentine's Day
Mar	Practice J JJ i	practice Is m d prepare re	Lollipop Tree	Orff	Spring, Vivaldi Listen #25	create acc. for poem intro for #66 create rain program acc. for Cookie story	Rain Rain Go Away
Apr	Practice J JJ I J J Present o	present re Hot Cross Buns Rabbits	dynamics Find the Easter Basket (75) Salish Hand Game (80)	Orff	loud-soft LCD #28 Butterfly, Grieg ABABAB Bunnyhop	create new words Rabbits (78) move - Bunnyhop	Earth Day Easter
May	Practice J JJ : J J J Present .	practice s mrd Johnny Bought me a Cat	legato/staccato Sur le pont Juguemos Japanese Frog Song, Kagome	u/p Bought Me a Cat Orff #	staccato/legato * move to show Listen #29, 30	u/p create effects Bought Me a Cat create acc. Johnny move - Sur le pont	Music Around the World
June	Practice J JJ } J J Present -	Is mrd Bluebird, Down Came Johnny, Let Us Chase the Squirrel round - Row Row	Ooey Gooey poem	u/p with Ooey Gooey poem Orff #	Bluebird Tchalkovsky Listen #32	create effects - move Ooey Gooey create verses - picnic	Summer Fun



Assessment Examples - Steady Beat

To Assess:

- Play a song that involves students keeping a steady beat through activities like clapping, patting, tapping, or other movements.
- Observe and assess their ability to keep the beat while singing and moving to the song.
- Play a listening example and have the children find their own way to keep a beat.
- Observe and assess their ability to keep the beat while playing instruments.
- Track on a "Beat Chart".



Action Leader - Musicplay Kindergarten -General Songs



Copycat Game:

Listen Kit 1 #36 Gigue, by Handel

- Copycat is great.
- Choose 4 leaders
- Or do body percussion animated playalong on MPO

Sam the Robot Man - Musicplay 1 - Song #5



<u> Listen as I Play the Beat - Musicplay Kindergarten - Song #4</u>

Listen as I play the beat.

Gee this drum sounds really neat!

<u>Teaching Suggestions:</u> Use this chant to practice keeping a steady beat as students are introduced to many different unpitched percussion instruments and their classification. Use the chant for students to practice taking turns and passing an instrument to the next student in the circle.

Beat Tag - Games and Centers Unit

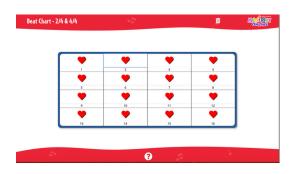
<u>Game Instructions:</u> Start with students patting strong beats and clapping weak beats on a drum. Stand up and have students step only on strong beats. Select 2 students as "It"; they also step on strong beats but can tag anyone they reach.

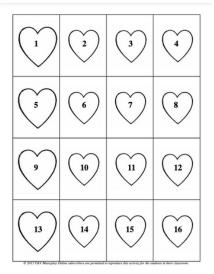
Out students can sit or move to a designated spot. Decide if students stay put at the start or have time to move away from "It." Students can count how many "outs" they get per round. Use the game to practice different meters like 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, and 6/8.

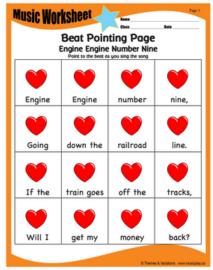
Beat Charts:

To Assess:

- Sing a short, familiar simple 16 beat reading song or chant such as "Engine, Engine #9."
- While they sing, have the children tap the beat on a beat chart.
- Download a beat chart for the songs listed above or a generic version from musicplayonline.com – documents.
- Observe and assess as they sing and tap the beat.



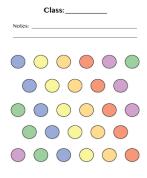






ASSESSMENT TIP #1

How to be efficient when doing whole class observations.



- Line students up in alphabetical order before you begin, then use class list to track observations.
- Make a seating chart template. List outcome and/or rubric at the top, then track observations.
- Video in class, then look over after. This works great and can allow you to be more present in class, but can be time consuming to watch afterwards.

Assessment Examples - Rhythm Reading and Writing:

To Assess:

- Flashcard assessment.
- Embed with singing games.
- Rhythmic dictation notate grade level rhythm patterns you hear.
- Beat/rhythm printable and interactives.
- Create and play with word rhythms.
- Interactive games.

RHYTHM RUBRIC

Use these rubrics to assess the ability to read (say or clap) rhythms. Fill in the rhythm to be assessed under "objective."

Objective	1. Beginning	2. Satisfactory	3. Proficient	4. Excellent
Accurately reads (says or claps) the rhythm		The student is sometimes able to read the rhythm.	,	The student consistently reads the rhythm.

Rhythm Reading Assessments:

- You can find these in the "Rhythm Practice".
- Select the rhythms you want to assess. (25 Levels!)
- 4 and 8 beat options.
- Choice of video, flashcard, or interactive.
- Go down your class list, having each child read one or two flashcards.





Rhythm Reading - Embed with Singing Games:



<u>Musicplay Grade 2 - Song #16</u>

- Select 4 flashcards with rhythms you want to target for a "B" section.
- Set students up in rows (in alphabetical order!) with instrument of choice.
- Sing the song, then first group plays the 4 rhythm cards.
- Track your observations based on the rhythm reading rubric.
- Change up the cards with each new group.

Pass the pump-kin 'round the room. Keep the beat while pass - ing. When it stops you take a turn. Clap it if you can!

Musicplay Grade 4 - Song #26

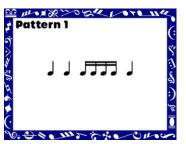
- Print and cut Rhythm Flashcards (choose rhythms students can read).
- Place the flashcards in a pumpkin.
- As students sing, pass the pumpkin around.
- At the end of the song, or on a signal, the student with the pumpkin pulls a rhythm and claps it. The class echoes.
- The student who clapped becomes the first in a rhythm chain.
- The second student claps their rhythm, then both turn away so the class remembers both rhythms.
- If successful, keep adding to the chain. How many rhythms can your students remember?

Rhythmic Dictation:

- Print out copies of the "Rhythm Dictation Worksheet".
- Select 5 rhythms for students to write. (Options are provided in assessment worksheets).
- I clap a pattern they clap it back, I clap again they clap it back, then write it down. Students can raise hands if they need to hear it again.

• I mark this based on accuracy on each beat and if they are writing the rhythms correctly. (Total mark out of 20).









Beat and Rhythm Interactives and Worksheets:





Beat/Rhythm Interactives and Worksheets for Every Reading Song on Musicplay Online.

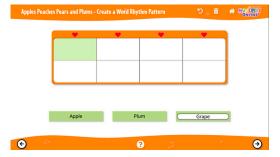
ASSESSMENT TIP #2 Consider the assessment method or tool you are using.

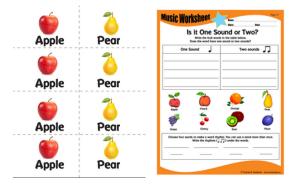
- Is it age appropriate?
- Does it accurately reflect what students know?
- Is it fair?

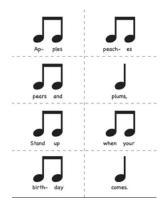
Create with Rhythms:

You can assess rhythm reading, writing, playing and creating in ONE assessment!

- Rhythm sort and create with a reading song.
- Word rhythms:
 - Song Sort Printable (Beat/Rhythm Worksheets).
 - Custom Word Rhythm Generator
 - Create a B Section for song using word rhythms.
 - Rhythm Composition Tool







Song Sort:

- Print onto cardstock and cut out.
 Store in ziplock bags.
- Students sort the song.
- Students decide how to play the rhythm of the song on body percussion or instruments.





Interactive Games:









Assessment Examples - Pitch Matching (In-Tune Singing)

To Assess:

- Solo singing and improvisation opportunities.
- Embed into singing games.
- Tuning Fork
- 3 second listen

SINGING WITH EXPRESSION OR SINGING PART SONGS IN TUNE

Use the three second listen strategy to do this assessment. Have the students sing a song that they are working on for a performance. Have them stand in alphabetical order while they sing so you can mark easily on your class list as you walk down the row. Listen to each child for three seconds and assess what you hear. You may need to have the students sing the song twice to assess your entire class.

Objective	1. Beginning	2. Satisfactory	3. Proficient	4. Excellent
Sings with expression.	The student continues working towards singing with a light, clear tone.	The student sometimes sings with expression.	The student usually sings with expression	The student always sings with expression.
Objective	1. Beginning	2. Satisfactory	3. Proficient	4. Excellent
The student stays in tune on his own part when singing in two parts.	The student seldom stays in tune on his own part when singing in two parts.	The student sometimes stays in tune on his own part when singing in two parts.	The student usually stays in tune on his own part when singing in two parts.	The student consistently stays in tune on his own part when singing in two parts.
Objective	1. Beginning	2. Satisfactory	3. Proficient	4. Excellent
Sings in tune with good tone, expression and diction.	The students seldom sings in tune, with good tone, expression, and diction.	The students sometimes sings in tune, with good tone, expression, and diction.	The students usually sings in tune, with good tone, expression, and diction.	The students consistently sings in tune, with good tone, expression, and diction.

PITCH MATCHING (IN-TUNE SINGING) RUBRICS

Objective	1. Beginning	2. Satisfactory	3. Proficient	4. Excellent
Matches pitch accurately when singing.	The student continues working towards matching pitches accurately.	The student sometimes matches pitches accurately	The student usually matches pitches accurately.	The student always matches pitches accurately.
Objective	1. Beginning	2. Satisfactory	3. Proficient	4. Excellent
Sings with a light, clear tone	The student continues working towards singing with a light, clear tone.	The student sometimes sings with a light, clear tone.	The student usually sings with a light, clear tone.	The student always sings with a light, clear tone.

Solo Singing and Improvisaion:

Hello Attendance:

• Hello Charlie, Hello Mrs. Werner

Improvise Question/Answer:

- Use a pretend microphone.
- What's your favourite ice cream flavor?

Melody the Elephant:

Ask Melody to do tricks! (She only understands a singing voice)

Brown Bear Story:

- Try with final page of story
- Try with stuffies in a circle after reading the story.

Singing Games with Solo Singing:

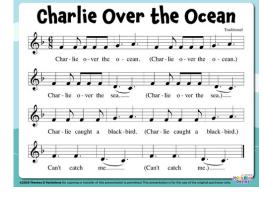


<u>Musicplay Grade 2 - Song #32</u>

Other Guessing Games on Musicplay Online:

- Cuckoo
- Tommy Tiddlemouse
- Mr. Potato Head
- Who's That?
- Down Came Johnny

Call/Response Songs:



<u>Musicplay Grade 1 - Song #104</u>

Other Call/Response Songs on Musicplay Online:

- I'm the Fastest Turkey
- John the Rabbit
- The Other Day
- Haul on the Bowlin'
- Going on a Bear Hunt

Pitch Matching:

Tuning Fork:

- Use class list order.
- Strike tuning fork and hold up to students' ear.
- Student sings the note they hear.

3 Second Listen:

- Use for large groups or quick assessments.
- Have the class line up in alphabetical order.
- Students sing as a group, often with a recording.
- Listen to each student for about 3 seconds.
- Record each student's grade on the class list.

ASSESSMENT TIP #3

Consider Social Influences

- We never want to put students in a situation where they feel uncomfortable or embarrassed.
- Create a classroom culture where students feel safe.
- A student won't provide an accurate reflection of their progress if they feel uncomfortable or nervous.
- A great work around for this is centers!

Assessment Examples - Melody Reading and Writing:

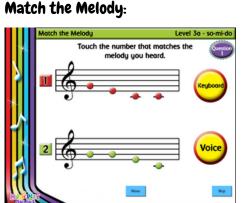
To Assess:

- Flashcard Assessments
- Match the Melody
- Melodic Dictation
- Melody Playback Game
- Solfa interactive and printable worksheets.
- Melody Composition Tool

Solfa Practice Section:

- Flashcards
- Melody Hunt Game
- Echo Sing Videos
- Poison Solfa
- Read Handsigns
- Read Notation
- Listen and Sing
- Reading Assessments
- Dictation Assessments









Solfa or Note Worksheets and Interactives:





These are included with all reading songs!

Melody Playback Game:



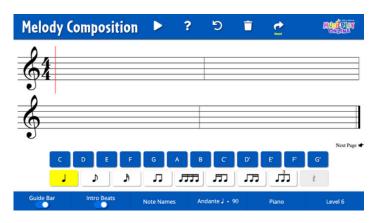
Includes 33 tone sets and gives options for solfa, note names, and scale degrees.

Melody Composition Ideas:





Melody Composition Tool:



Assessment Examples - Expressive Elements:

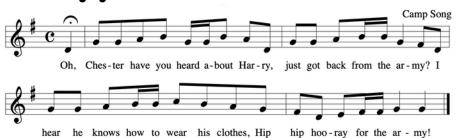
To Assess:

- Whole Class Visuals (Signals or Cards)
- Exit Cards
- Worksheets
- Listening Logs

Chester - Singing Fun and Games (Artie Almedia)





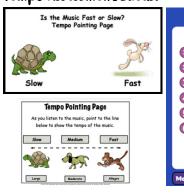


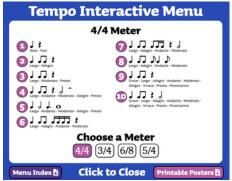
Teach the motions.

Presto, very fast!

Try it at a variety of tempos. Chester is in Artie Almeida's new resource, Singing Fun and Games.

Tempo Assessment Ideas:

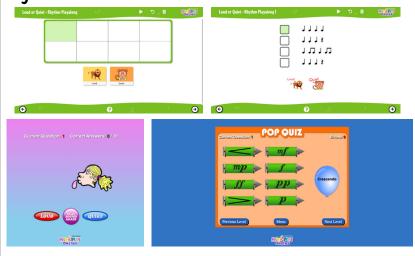




Tempo Unit

- Includes resource list of songs, games, learning modules, and music listening examples.
- Tempo Interactive multi-level options to try rhythm playalongs at different tempos.
- Games and interactives.
- More flashcards and worksheet assessments in the unit.

Dynamic Assessment Ideas:



Dynamics Unit

- Includes resource list of songs, games, learning modules, and music listening examples.
- Playalongs select loud or quiet with rhythms or poems.
- Loud/Quiet Game use visual cues for student answers while playing the game.
- Pop Quiz Game
- More flashcards and worksheet assessments in the unit.

Listening Logs:

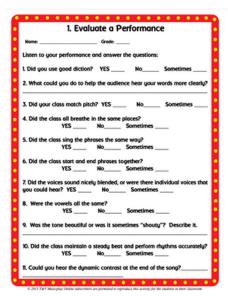


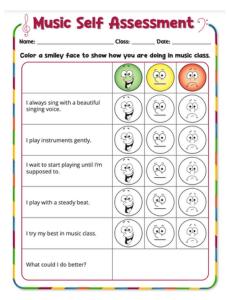


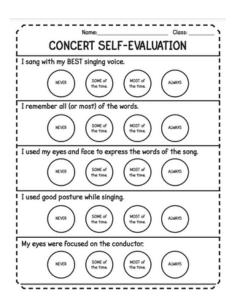


Listening selections for grades 1 to 5 are included in the listening section. You can search for selections to move with plates, cups, ribbons, scarves, rhythm play along, or buy composer.

Self-Assessments:







Questions?

- Wednesday Webinars
- Musicplay Newsletter
- Musicplay Teachers Facebook
- Musicplay YouTube
- Musicplay Instagram

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Register:

https://workshops.musicplay.ca/c ourses/sing-dance-play-2025live-in-st-louis/