



**End of the Year Music Teacher Survival Guide:
Engaging Activities to finish the Year Strong**

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End of the Year Compositions

- Compositions to review what you have focused on during the year.
- Always break up the compositions into sections so that students have to check in with you throughout the process.
- We always have a "class example" that we do together as a whole group to show the next section before allowing them to break into their groups.
- I give a grade/mark at each section to see how their progress is.
- Usually I try to have a composition project last 3 to 4 weeks, I see my students once a week for 45 minutes.
- 1st section – Rhythm, 2nd section – Melody, 3rd section – practice with instruments, 4th section – performance!
- Also I love giving students the option to complete their composition with a partner. Working together really helps get the ideas flowing. Some students prefer working on their own and that is also fine.



Color Composition

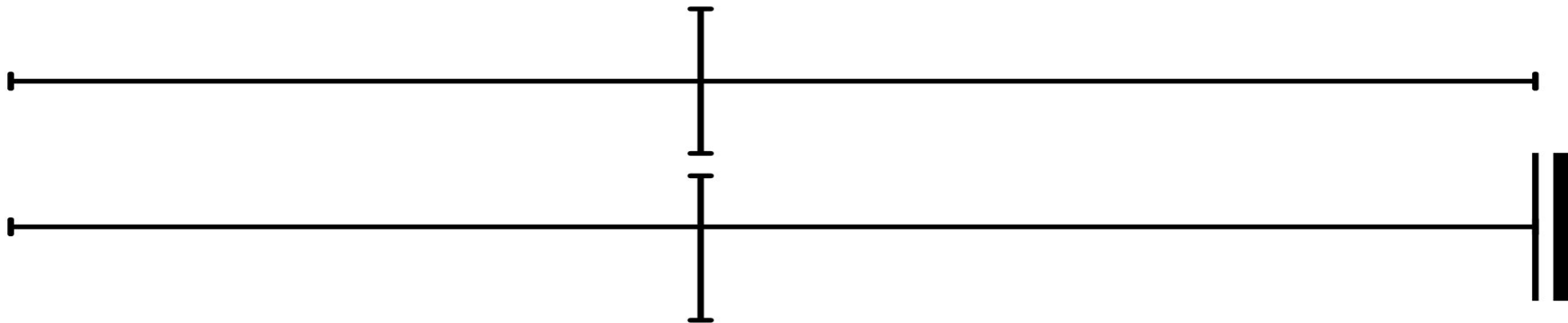
What are the Instruments and movement props that you want to use?

Name _____

Title _____

Decide on the colors that you will use in your composition. Figure out the 2 beat rhythm that would go with each of the color words.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



FORM COMPOSITION

Name(s): _____

Teacher: _____

FORM: _____

Rhythm: 8 beats long

Instruments:

A:

B:

C:

Name Game Composition:

2 beats per name

Your Name:

1. NAME: _____

Rhythm: _____

3. NAME: _____

Rhythm: _____

2. NAME: _____

Rhythm: _____

4. NAME: _____

Rhythm: _____

Recorder Composition

Name: _____

Teacher: _____

1. Fill in the blanks below with the amount of **BEATS** each note or rest is.



2. Create a rhythm for your composition using the **NOTES** and **RESTS** above. Please remember you can only use either a **WHOLE NOTE** or a **WHOLE REST** once. You may not use both. Make sure to show your **MATH** above your notes!



3. Create a melody for your notes using your rhythm. Place a note letter **UNDERNEATH** each note to show what the melody will be. You **MUST** use at least **THREE** notes for your melody. You may use **NO MORE** than 5 notes.

Recorder Composition:

4. Now place your notes and rests on the **STAFF** in their proper place depending on your **MELODY**.

Music Escape Room

- I love doing this activity with my 5th graders. They get really into it. I bought all the locks and keys and combination locks to really sell it, however, all of that really isn't necessary.
- All you need is 4 activities that bring you to the next activity and at the end they get a prize (I usually make it some starburst).
- I do 4 separate groups/different answers so that if students want to repeat it the following week I can just give them a different color group.



Introduction to Lead Generation

- 1. Identify your target audience.
- 2. Research your target audience's needs and pain points.
- 3. Create compelling content that addresses their needs and pain points.
- 4. Promote your content through various channels (social media, email, etc.).
- 5. Track and analyze the results of your lead generation efforts.

Don't forget to give your leads a warm welcome and nurture them through the sales funnel.



Amazon Links

- **Small Lockable Bags –**
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09CS3B6DG?ref=ppx_hzsearch_conn_dt_b_fed_asin_title_101&th=1
- **Big Lockable Bags –**
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B083ZCZ7CC?ref=ppx_hzsearch_conn_dt_b_fed_asin_title_123
- **Word Combination Locks –**
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0000NVJ2G?ref=ppx_hzsearch_conn_dt_b_fed_asin_title_2&th=1
- **4 pack word combination locks –**
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00BFUKTVC?ref=ppx_hzsearch_conn_dt_b_fed_asin_title_8&th=1
- **Lockable Boxes for Prizes –**
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B06XJFGHIV?ref=ppx_hzsearch_conn_dt_b_fed_asin_title_6&th=1
- **Number Combination Locks –**
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07Q5MNMHZ?ref=ppx_hzsearch_conn_dt_b_fed_asin_title_7&th=1

Music Escape Room – Activity 1

- **Instrument Riddle Worksheet.**
- **Students answer instrument riddles and then look at my instrument family posters and next to the correct answer is a number.**
- **Each group comes up with a separate 4 digit code that opens a combination lock. If you don't want to use locks, just tell them they have to tell you the code to get the next activity.**

Instrument Riddle Worksheet



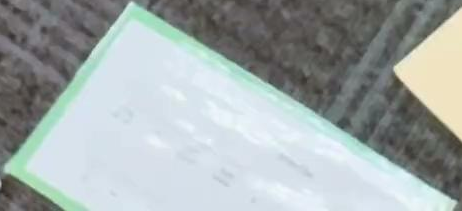
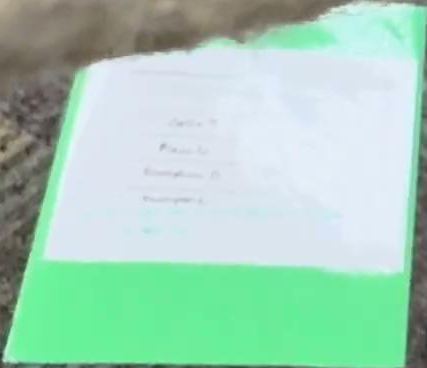
Instrument Family Fun! Green Group

- Solve the riddle to name the instrument.
- Then travel to the instrument family posters and see what has a 1, 2, or that instrument.
- Put the numbers in order to find the next combination, for the 4 digit code.

1. I belong in the string family and have a big body. But musicians have to sit when they play me. Who am I?
Cello 9
2. I have strings inside me but have to be hit/tapped to be played. Who am I?
Piano 6
3. I am in the woodwind family, but am made of brass. Who am I?
Saxophone 0
4. I am the largest member of the brass family. Who am I?
Trumpet 2

Use the 4 digit code to unlock bag #1 and figure out the next clue.



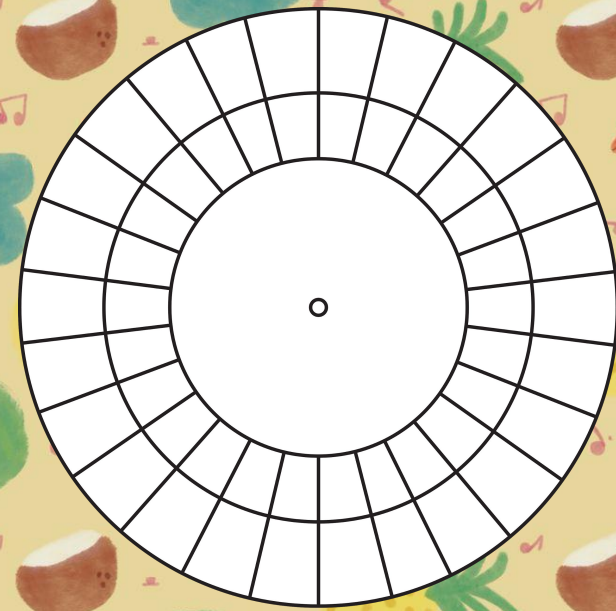
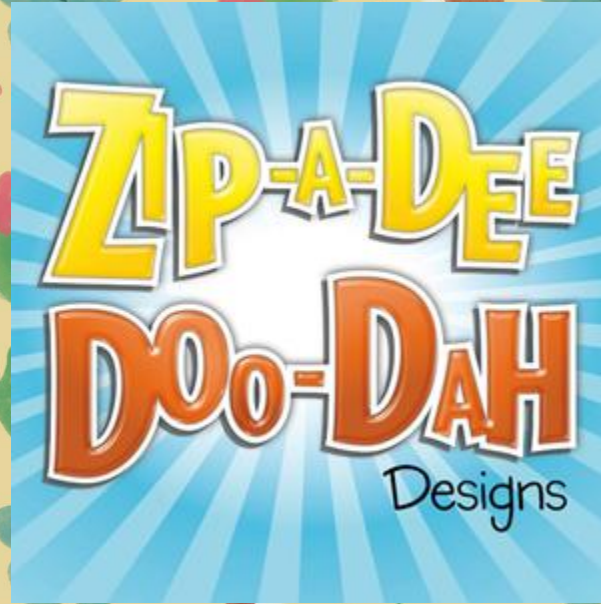
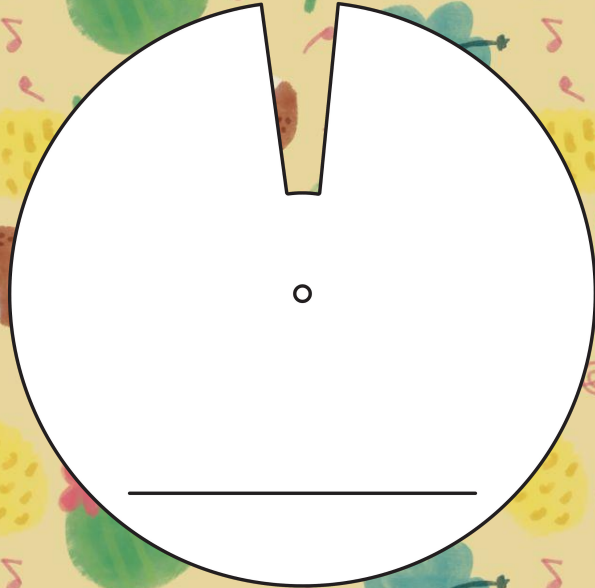


Music Escape Room – Activity 2

- A small kid puzzle that I have put music facts on the back of, students have to put the puzzle together upside down matching the music facts.
- This activity could easily be a music math facts or something along those lines to come up with a combination of some kind.
- Then they turn it over and it reveals an animal. They put the name of the animal into a combo lock and open another bag.

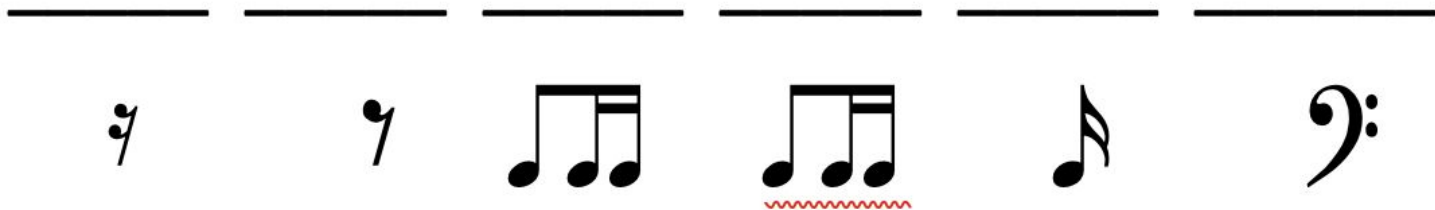
Music Escape Room – Activity 3

- find a code breaker wheel on [teacherspayteachers.com](https://www.teacherspayteachers.com).
- fill out the code breaker with different music notes and letters.
- Then create a code that brings students to an area of the room where they will find a word scramble of music words.
- My groups have different word breakers that I changed by a letter. They send each group to a different area of the room.



<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/store/zip-a-dee-doo-dah-designs?search=decoder>

Blue Clue



Green Clue

u n d e r t h e

Musical notation for the words 'under the' on a five-line staff. 'u' is a quarter note, 'n' is a quarter rest, 'd' is a beamed eighth note pair, 'e' is a beamed eighth note pair, 'r' is a sharp sign, 't' is a quarter note, 'h' is a quarter rest, and 'e' is a beamed eighth note pair.

p i a h o .

Musical notation for the words 'pia ho.' on a five-line staff. 'p' is a quarter note, 'i' is a quarter rest, 'a' is a quarter note, 'h' is a quarter rest, and 'o' is a half note with a period.

Music Escape Room – Activity 4

- Create a word scramble using vocabulary they learned that year.
- I laminate my word scrambles and they fill them out with dry erase marker so I can reuse them easily.
- Once they unscramble all the words (they have a key of words to choose from) they then turn the paper over and match 5 definitions to the correct word and what number that word is on the scramble.
- They then come up with a 5 digit code that opens a lock for a key. Then that key opens a box where their prize is waiting!

Music Word Scramble Green

MLYDOE 1

YROHMAN 2

POMTE 3

NDSCAIMY 4

ICHPT 5

POECMROS 6

NUCOCOTRD 7

RHYMHT 8

BTEA 9

RFMO 10

beat dynamics harmony rhythm
tempo conductor
pitch melody form composer

Dance Party – Blacklights

- **My students love anything blacklight. I used neon gaffers tape and did tape designs on my cabinets and bought a neon party kit that had fun banners in them and I keep them up all year long, so when it's time for blacklight the room glows up!**
- **I also invested in a fun party laser light to use only during the dance party.**
- **The week before, students are allowed to set the playlist and if I can find clean versions (if needed) that is the playlist for the dance party.**
- **My kiddos also love a good game of limbo during the dance party.**

Swick's Classroom/OK GO videos

- Tyler Swick who will be at SDP 2026 this summer has a huge collection of amazing play along videos with boomwackers, etc.
- These are fabulous if you need a quick 10 minute activity, or repeat the video and have students change notes to make it longer.
- OK GO is a fabulous music group that became famous based on their treadmill music video! Their music videos are incredibly thoughtful and creative and I love showing students their creativity. Careful! Not all of their songs are kid friendly.
- On the next slide these are my favorites to show.

Favorite OK GO videos

- Here it Goes Again
- Upside Down and Inside Out
- I won't let you down
- This too shall pass
 - Obsession