

# **New Music Teacher in the Classroom**

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## **Learning Objectives:**

- Teachers will be able to navigate around the Musicplayonline Curriculum site to find the necessary resources for success in the classroom.
- Teachers will receive practical classroom management skills for success
- Teachers will gain access to great resources and ideas for success the first 3 months of school in various grade levels

## **Materials:**

- [Musicplayonline.com](http://Musicplayonline.com)
- Bo Bo
- Shakers, hand drums, and woodblocks

## **Standards:**

- Create- Discover musical ideas through simple rhythm and melodic patterns
- Display expressive qualities in a performance
- Recognize and define grade appropriate foundational musical elements
- Connect-Explain how music relates to self and others

## **Classroom management skills**

- Name tags or seating arrangements
- Classroom rules ( musicplayonline- supporting resources, tool box- music rules projectable poster

- Praise verses punish
- Positive Communication is HUGE with parents, teachers, paras, administrators for all upcoming events.
- Time management with your allotted time

## Having a Mentor

- Mentoring with someone in your building/ encore area/ in district
  - Benefits- build working relationship and a safe spot to build trust
  - Provide encouragement and receive constructive feedback
  - Improves retention in the teaching profession
  - Seek out a great music teacher in your area to bounce ideas off

## Where to start?

- What will we learn? Lesson planning/scope and sequence section/What we will learn PK-5
- Hang somewhere where it is visible to administration and a reminder for yourself as you plan out your lessons- it's a compass
- SING, MOVE, PLAY, LISTEN every class period if possible
- Incorporate creativity, improvise and compose when possible
- Repeat a song if students really enjoyed it- it's ok!
- Sometimes Less is More-
  - Ex. K-1 ( piano and forte) 2-5 add the other dynamics
  - Focus on 4 tempos (ex. Adagio, moderato, allegro, and presto)
  - Composer of the month- Students forget easily- who do you want them to remember when they leave Elementary school?
  - Great teaching is memorable! You WILL be noticed by administration which can help build a budget
  - Create an inviting, engaging, supportive classroom culture
  - Work /life balance- 1st year is most challenging! Four phases of 1st year teaching:  
**Anticipation** ( anxious, excited), **Survival** ( Overwhelm, day to day focus) **Disillusionment** ( reality shock, self doubt), **Rejuvenation**- renewed sense of excitement for all your successes, new ideas for the new year)

## Kindergarten and 1st grade Ideas

- **Bobos** ( made ahead of time)
  - Each child should have their own
  - Really emphasize taking care of them and treating them with respect
  - Vocal Warm up section on Musicplay online
  - Lots of examples- Start with 4 beat patterns
- **The Witch's Cat**- Musicplay Song List/ type in the name
  - Students will identify major versus minor
  - Students will sing through the song
  - Play the game and singing along  
(Video Example)

## 2nd Grade Ideas

### Musicplay Games/ What Instrument Do You Hear?

- Great for both formal and summative assessment. 3/2/1
- Also a great tool for SLO ( student learning objective)
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## 3rd Grade Idea

### Musicplay Listening Grade 3- Entry of the Gladiators

- Discuss the listening map, talk through the play along, hand out instruments, and discuss form and the road map
- (video example)

## ● 4th Grade Idea

- **Coconut Chaos- Musicplay - games**
- Focus on notes on the staff- review lines and spaces, make two lines in the classroom
- Start with Level One to build confidence in your students' abilities and then increase the levels
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## 5th Grade Idea

- **Star Spangled Banner- Grade 5 #100-** Students are learning about the history of the song and also the intention to memorize the lyrics and gain an appreciation
  - Hand out lyric sheets found on the site, Work through the language and identify challenging vocabulary- Word meaning sheet
  - Sing around the piano
  - Whitney Houston's 1991 Superbowl performance- Diction, posture and emotion
  - Virginia Tech Head Basketball Coach- meaning behind the song for the team
  - Ultimate goal is in 3 weeks, have it memorized and sing as a group around the piano
  - Perform at the HS Homecoming Game with HS Band- Great School Tradition, as well as sing it at the Veteran's Day Program

Enjoy the process of 1st year teaching and don't be too hard on yourself. **Feel free to email me if you have any further questions and/or want to have a zoom set up a call with me to help you with success in the classroom. I am happy to share my ideas with you.**

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