

Arts Assessment For Learning

MUSIC — 5TH GRADE

HOW TO & TIPS: IMPROVING SCALE PERFORMANCE

1. Students will be taught through group instruction how to play a major scale.
2. Students will be divided into groups of two.
3. First one partner will play and then the other.
4. Students will be given a checklist to use with their partner. The checklist simply identifies the correct pitches needed to play a scale. See: CHECKLIST
5. During a rehearsal or lesson time, student A will be asked to play three scales for his/her partner, student B. When available student B will be given a tuner to help them identify pitches. Student A will slowly play their scales (whole notes) for Student B. Student B will circle any missed note and when possible identify why it was incorrect. After all three scales have been played, Student B will show Student A the checklist and discuss errors that were made. Together the partners will decide what needs to be done to correct the problem. The playing partner will then be allowed time to practice and make necessary corrections. After a few minutes, the scales will be played again to see if improvement has been made. Partners will switch roles. With the use of a checklist to guide them, each student will be able to give and receive feedback by their peers.
6. Students will be given time (if necessary) to practice their scales as warm-up exercises before band and lessons.
7. My instruction will be planned and adjusted based on peer feedback. I will be able to see the student checklists and talk to the partners to discuss their findings. I can then review material and /or reteach as necessary until three separate