

ROBERTSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

VOCAL/CHORAL/GENERAL MUSIC

MASTERY GUIDE

SIXTH – EIGHTH GRADE

Course Description:

Vocal music is a course that seeks to give students in grades 6-8 experiences in the study and performance of a diverse repertoire of vocal/choral music. The course will include instruction in proper vocal technique, musicianship skills, and the cultural and historical context of choral literature. The course will encourage self-expression through performance and creation of music.

LEVEL ONE (First-year students) are expected to complete by the end of the course:

1st Term

Content Standard 1.0: Singing

Students will sing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.

The student will:

- explore singing with expression a varied repertoire of age-appropriate vocal literature;
- display fundamentals of correct vocal production;
- explore consonant and vowel production appropriate to the style of vocal literature;
- proficiently perform unison music in an ensemble.

Content Standard 5.0: Reading and Notating

Students will read and notate music.

The student will:

- explore notation in choral music with a difficulty level of 1;
- explore specified terms, signs, and musical symbols in a choral music score;
- apply sight-reading skills in choral music with a difficulty level of 1;
- explore notation of vocal parts using standard symbols.

Content Standard 6.0: Listening and Analyzing

Students will listen to, analyze, and describe music.

The student will:

- explore choral literature to identify musical elements, forms and expressive devices;
- explore use of musical elements in a recorded work;
- explore use of timbre, melody, and harmony in works of similar genres;
- explore music recordings of a variety of musical styles and genres.

ROBERTSON COUNTY SCHOOLS
VOCAL/CHORAL/GENERAL MUSIC
MASTERY GUIDE
SIXTH – EIGHTH GRADE

Content Standard 7.0: Evaluating

Students will evaluate music and music performances

The student will:

- list elements for evaluation of personal participation in a choral performance;
- list musical elements for comparison of choral performances with similar or exemplary models;
- list aesthetic qualities of a given choral work.

2nd Term

Content Standard 9.0: Historical and Cultural Relationships

Students will understand music in relation to history and culture.

The student will:

- explore musical characteristics of various cultures.
- list various American music genres.

Content Standard 8.0: Interdisciplinary Connections

Students will understand relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.

The student will:

- list basic elements common in the arts;
- list characteristics of art forms within a particular historical period or style;
- determine if various disciplines are related to music;
- list technological developments utilized in creating, producing, and listening to music;
- define the role of music in today's environment.

Content Standard 2.0: Playing Instruments

Students will perform on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.

The student will:

- explore various melodic instruments as to sound and capabilities;
- explore qualities of various rhythmic instruments.

Content Standard 4.0: Composing

Students will compose and arrange music within specified guidelines.

ROBERTSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

VOCAL/CHORAL/GENERAL MUSIC

MASTERY GUIDE

SIXTH – EIGHTH GRADE

The student will:

- create a simple obbligato figure to a familiar song;
- develop a non-notated vocal warm-up of a specified number of measures;
- arrange specified songs into a medley.

Content Standard 3.0: Improvising

Students will improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments.

The student will:

- experiment with a non-notated rhythmic accompaniment to a melody;
- explore sounds of several variations and imitate them;
- improvise simple accompaniments.

LEVEL TWO (Second-year students) are expected to complete by the end of the course:

1st Term

Content Standard 1.0: Singing

Students will sing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.

The students will:

- apply expressive style and vocal techniques to age-appropriate vocal literature;
- sing alone using age-appropriate vocal production techniques;
- apply correct diction in several styles of selected literature;
- proficiently perform two-part music in a variety of ensembles.

Content Standard 5.0: Reading and Notating

Students will read and notate music.

The student will:

- interpret notation of choral music with a difficulty level of 2;
- Vocally demonstrate terms, signs and musical symbols at a proficient level in a classroom setting;
- apply sight-reading skills in choral music with a difficulty level of 2;
- apply standard symbols and signs to simple vocal part notation.

Content Standard 6.0: Listening and Analyzing

Students will listen to, analyze, and describe music.

The student will:

ROBERTSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

VOCAL/CHORAL/GENERAL MUSIC

MASTERY GUIDE

SIXTH – EIGHTH GRADE

- distinguish the use of musical elements in choral literature at a proficient level;
- recognize the use of musical elements in a recorded work at a proficient level;
- identify the use of timbre, melody, and rhythm in works of similar genres;
- listen to music recordings and classify according to styles.

Content Standard 7.0: Evaluating

Students will evaluate music and music performances

The student will:

- identify criteria for evaluation of personal participation in a choral performance;
- identify criteria for comparison of choral performances with similar or exemplary models;
- explore musical means used to create the feelings or emotions in a choral work.

2nd Term

Content Standard 9.0: Historical and Cultural Relationships

Students will understand music in relation to history and culture.

The student will:

- identify musical characteristics of historical periods within given cultures.
- determine the origin of specified American genres.

Content Standard 8.0: Interdisciplinary Connections

Students will understand relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.

The student will:

- explore the use of basic elements common in the arts;
- describe how characteristics are displayed within each art form within a particular historical period or style;
- describe how various disciplines are related to music;
- appropriately analyze the influence of music technology on the creation of, production of, and listening to music;
- describe the impact of music in today's environment.

Content Standard 2.0: Playing Instruments

Students will perform on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.

The student will:

- employ knowledge of instruments to play simple melodic phrases;

ROBERTSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

VOCAL/CHORAL/GENERAL MUSIC

MASTERY GUIDE

SIXTH – EIGHTH GRADE

- employ knowledge of rhythm instruments to play simple rhythmic patterns.

Content Standard 4.0: Composing

Students will compose and arrange music within specified guidelines.

The student will:

- create a descant for a simple song;
- develop a vocal warm-up using a descant;
- arrange two specified songs into a partner song.

Content Standard 3.0: Improvising

Students will improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments.

The student will:

- perform a simple non-notated melody;
- improvise a simple variation to a familiar song;
- employ short accompaniment passages with a selected song.

LEVEL THREE (Third-year students) are expected to complete by the end of the course:

1st Term

Content Standard 1.0: Singing

Students will sing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.

The students will:

- demonstrate expressive style and technical accuracy appropriate to the genre and historical period of the music being performed;
- apply age-appropriate vocal production techniques throughout vocal range;
- illustrate the ability to sing in a variety of languages and dialects with appropriate diction for each;
- proficiently perform in a variety of ensembles.

Content Standard 5.0: Reading and Notating

Students will read and notate music.

The student will:

- accurately interpret notation in choral music with a difficulty level of 3 in a performance context;

ROBERTSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

VOCAL/CHORAL/GENERAL MUSIC

MASTERY GUIDE

SIXTH – EIGHTH GRADE

- vocally demonstrate terms, signs and musical symbols accurately in a choral performance context;
- sight-read accurately and expressively music with a level of difficulty of 2 or above;
- use standard notation accurately in dictation exercises.

Content Standard 6.0: Listening and Analyzing

Students will listen to, analyze, and describe music.

The student will:

- accurately distinguish the use of musical elements in choral literature;
- describe the use of musical elements in a recorded work at an age appropriate level;
- accurately differentiate use of timbre, melody, rhythm, harmony, and form in works of similar genres;
- inventory and correctly classify music from a variety of styles and genres.

Content Standard 7.0: Evaluating

Students will evaluate music and music performances

The student will:

- develop and utilize an age-appropriate rubric for evaluation of personal participation in a choral performance;
- develop and utilize an age-appropriate rubric for evaluation of ensemble in a choral performance as compared to other groups or exemplary models;
- appropriately assess a choral work's aesthetic qualities by explaining musical elements used to create that aesthetic.

2nd Term

Content Standard 9.0: Historical and Cultural Relationships

Students will understand music in relation to history and culture.

The student will:

- differentiate selected choral literature into particular historical periods and cultures.

ROBERTSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

VOCAL/CHORAL/GENERAL MUSIC

MASTERY GUIDE

SIXTH – EIGHTH GRADE

- analyze the relationship between an American musical genre and its origin.

Content Standard 8.0: Interdisciplinary Connections

Students will understand relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.

The student will:

- compare and contrast the use of basic elements in two or more of the arts at a proficient level;
- construct an appropriate comparison between two art forms within one historical context;
- appropriately assess the relationship of principles and subject matter of disciplines outside the arts to those of music;
- utilize music technology in creating, producing, and listening to music;
- appropriately evaluate the impact of music on today's environment.

Content Standard 2.0: Playing Instruments

Students will perform on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.

The student will:

- appropriately utilize melodic instruments in the performance of a choral composition;
- appropriately utilize rhythmic instruments in the performance of a choral composition.

Content Standard 4.0: Composing

Students will compose and arrange music within specified guidelines.

The student will:

- create a stylistically appropriate descant, obligato or ostinato;
- develop age-appropriate vocal warm-ups for a specific aim;
- arrange both medleys and partner songs using specified guidelines.

Content Standard 3.0: Improvising

Students will improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments.

The student will:

- perform a non-notated melody in a stylistically appropriate manner;
- improvise an appropriate variation within specified guidelines;
- create a non-notated accompaniment in a stylistically appropriate manner.