Instructional Unit Title: Music Tells a Story

Music 1st Grade

The teacher may use picture books and/or informational texts (in whole or part) focused on the topic of feelings (e.g. *The Feelings Book* by Todd Parr, *My Many Colored Day* by Dr. Suess), so that students can begin to build vocabularies related to "feelings" and begin exploring the variety of sounds that can represent feelings.



The teacher may select key text vocabulary/elements (characters, setting, icons, and text) so that students can connect each vocabulary/elements to a specific instruments and/or movements.



The teacher may use key text vocabulary/elements (story and music) so that students can consider some ways that authors and musicians connect stories with music to depict feelings and mood.



The teacher may use a recording of students' performance(s) so that students can begin exploring the ways in their work effectively connected emotions and musical sounds.



The teacher may model the rehearsal process so that the students can begin to understand the importance of reflecting on performance.



The teacher may use a picture book and/or informational text (see teacher resources) so that students can begin exploring how to use sounds (body percussion, classroom instruments, vocals, movement, etc.) to explore the power of musical representations of mood, setting, and/or character of the story..



The teacher may use a recording of students' performance(s) so that students can begin exploring the ways in their work effectively used feelings to tell a story.



PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT: You are a group of "musical authors" who have been asked to share a musical story in a performance (informance or recording) with the young students in this school and/or community. To prepare to perform, you will work together to create a story (or retell a story) that will use musical sounds to convey emotions and moods. As experienced musical authors, you know that musical sounds may include vocal production (singing), small percussion, Orff barred instruments, etc., movement or some combination of these musical habits.

This unit was authored by a team of Colorado educators. The unit is intended to support teachers, schools, and districts as they make their own local decisions around the best instructional plans and practices for all students. To see the entire instructional unit sample with possible learning experiences, resources, differentiation, and assessments visit https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/instructionalunitsamples.