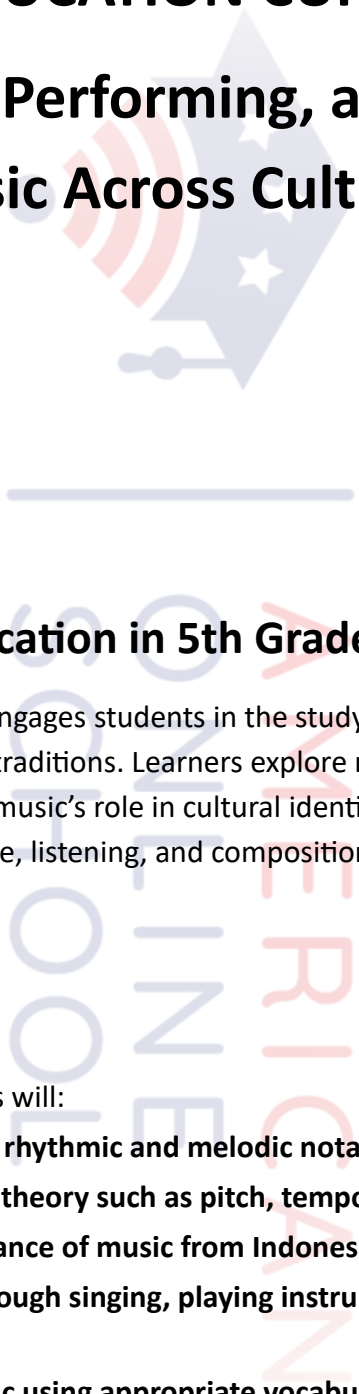


# 5th Grade American Online School

## MUSIC EDUCATION CURRICULUM

### Understanding, Performing, and Appreciating Music Across Cultures



Version May/2025

---

## 1. Introduction

### The Role of Music Education in 5th Grade

The 5th Grade Music curriculum engages students in the study of music theory, historical masterpieces, and global musical traditions. Learners explore rhythm, melody, harmony, and notation, while also experiencing music's role in cultural identity and expression. The course combines theory with performance, listening, and composition to empower students as lifelong music appreciators and creators.

By the end of this course, students will:

- ✓ Read, write, and perform basic rhythmic and melodic notation.
  - ✓ Understand elements of music theory such as pitch, tempo, and dynamics.
  - ✓ Appreciate the cultural significance of music from Indonesia and Latin America.
  - ✓ Develop performance skills through singing, playing instruments, and collaborative music-making.
  - ✓ Reflect on and respond to music using appropriate vocabulary and critique.
-

## 2. Core Competence Areas

### MUS.1 Music Theory Basics

#### Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- ✓ Identify and describe pitch, rhythm, tempo, dynamics, and timbre.
- ✓ Read and write standard music notation.
- ✓ Perform rhythm and melody using instruments and voice.

#### Competencies

##### MUS.1.A.1 – Understanding basic elements of music theory.

- Identify time signatures, note values, rests, and tempo markings.
- Recognize scales, intervals, and dynamics in written and aural form.

##### MUS.1.A.2 – Applying theory through performance.

- Clap rhythms, sing melodies, and play basic patterns on classroom instruments.
- Compose a short 8-measure melody using notation software or staff paper.

---

### MUS.2 Classical Music and Historical Awareness

#### Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Recognize key composers and works from the Classical era.
- ✓ Understand the evolution of orchestral instruments and forms.
- ✓ Respond to classical music using vocabulary and personal interpretation.

#### Competencies

##### MUS.2.A.1 – Exploring Western classical music.

- Listen to selected pieces by Mozart, Beethoven, and Haydn.
- Identify instruments and musical form (e.g., sonata, symphony, concerto).

### **MUS.2.A.2 – Connecting music to history and emotion.**

- Analyze how music reflects historical context and composer intent.
  - Create “composer trading cards” or timelines.
- 

## **MUS.3 Music Around the World: Indonesia**

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Describe the sounds, instruments, and patterns of Gamelan music.
- ✓ Understand how music functions in Indonesian cultural and ceremonial life.
- ✓ Perform simple rhythmic and melodic Gamelan-inspired patterns.

### **Competencies**

#### **MUS.3.A.1 – Exploring Gamelan and traditional instruments.**

- Study metallophones, gongs, and drums in ensemble textures.
- Recognize cyclic structure and layers of rhythm.

#### **MUS.3.A.2 – Participating in world music performance.**

- Recreate Gamelan patterns using classroom percussion.
  - Design a “Gamelan grid” to visualize rhythm cycles.
- 

## **MUS.4 Music Around the World: Latin America**

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Identify musical traditions from Latin American countries.
- ✓ Explore instruments such as maracas, panpipes, and guitars.
- ✓ Compare rhythm, melody, and purpose in folk and popular Latin music.

## Competencies

### MUS.4.A.1 – Understanding Latin rhythms and instrumentation.

- Study the clave, syncopation, and percussive layering in salsa, cumbia, and samba.
- Listen to traditional music from Mexico, Peru, Brazil, and the Caribbean.

### MUS.4.A.2 – Creating and responding to Latin music.

- Compose rhythmic patterns inspired by Latin genres.
  - Participate in cultural celebration activities using music and movement.
- 

## 3. Assessment and Evaluation

### Formative Assessments – Daily Musicianship

- ✓ Clap-back and echo singing drills.
- ✓ Music theory exit slips and review games.
- ✓ Listening logs and guided responses.

### Summative Assessments – Project and Performance

- ✓ Rhythm composition and melody transcription.
- ✓ Unit performance tasks (Gamelan rhythm, Latin groove, ensemble singing).
- ✓ Music theory review quiz and vocabulary challenge.

### Authentic Assessment – Creative and Cultural Showcases

- ✓ Music Around the World showcase with student-led presentations.
  - ✓ Digital or live performance recordings.
  - ✓ “My Music Map” reflection connecting personal identity to sound.
- 

## 4. Instructional Strategies for Online Learning

### Evidence-Based and Reflective Learning

- ✓ Active listening with reflection journals.
- ✓ Guided improvisation and movement activities.

### **Multimodal and Technology-Enhanced Instruction**

- ✓ Use of YouTube, Chrome Music Lab, Soundtrap, or Flat.io.
- ✓ Visual aids, rhythm grids, and world maps for spatial thinking.

### **Inclusive and Global Perspective**

- ✓ Celebrate diversity through music and storytelling.
- ✓ Provide opportunities for all learners to participate and shine.

### **Learning Culture**

- ✓ Value every musical voice.
- ✓ Encourage risk-taking and expression.
- ✓ Make music-making joyful, purposeful, and community-driven.



AMERICAN  
ONLINE  
SCHOOL