
Lead Guitar Milestones

Middle School – Based on the desired curriculum pacing for **6th-8th grade classes that meet five times per week for 45 minutes to 1 hour each time**. Classes meet the new AZ Arts Standards for General Music for grades 6-8 in the areas of Performing, Responding and Connecting but may be more closely aligned with the HS Standards for Harmonizing Instruments and Performing Ensembles at the level of Novice to Intermediate at the end of year 1.

End of Quarter 1

Method Book I Level One

Key Pieces of Music Students Should Be Able to Perform

1. Praying Mantis
2. Twinkle
3. Mouse

Arts Standards and Other Learning Objectives Achieved

1. Understanding the principles of ergonomic technique
2. Reading music in standard notation
3. Following a conductor

Technique focus

- Alternating right hand rest strokes

End of Quarter 2

Method Book I Level Two

Key Pieces of Music Students Should Be Able to Perform

1. Eine Kleine Nachtmusik
2. English Dance
3. Oh, Susanna

Learning Objectives

1. Playing one octave of notes in C
2. Dotted and tied notes
3. Understanding and performing music in a variety of time signatures

End of Quarter 3

Method Book I Level Three

Key Pieces of Music Students Should Be Able to Perform

1. Greensleeves
2. Minuet in G
3. Frog/Scorpion

Learning Objectives

1. Playing in large and small ensembles with 3 or more independent lines
2. Increasing rhythmic complexity including dotted notes, tied notes and playing in a variety of meters
3. Sharps, flats and key signatures
4. Staccato, Legato
5. Transposable Major Scale Patterns

Technique focus

- Left hand position shifts

End of Quarter 4

Method Book I Level Four

Key Pieces of Music Students Should Be Able to Perform

1. Leyenda
2. Spider
3. Leccion No. 2

Arts Standards and Other Learning Objectives Achieved

1. Performing solo guitar music with two independent voices
2. Performing with expressiveness using dynamics, phrasing and tone color changes
3. Reading ledger lines

Technique focus

- Thumb free strokes and mixing finger rest strokes with thumb free strokes