Talk About Music

Use Core Words for Music Concepts
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Core Vocabulary and Music

• Most Unity® Minspeak® Application Programs contain the basics needed for music class, such as adjectives to describe music, verbs to play music, and names of musical instruments.

• A limited number of subject-specific music words may need to be added to the student’s vocabulary. Words marked with an * are recommended for adding to the Unity® vocabulary because of their value in music class, from kindergarten to graduation.

• During lessons, students may be asked to define music concepts using core words. Even words programmed in the device, like “note,” are paraphrased with core vocabulary so the student can show he/she knows the concept from a musical point of view.

• All concepts and definitions are represented with icon sequences from Unity®144. Using the PASS program, make similar materials, as needed, for students using other versions of the Unity® program, using this material as your example.
Adjectives to Describe Music

- Loud
- Soft/quiet
- Fast
- Slow
- Long
- Short
- Even/Not Even/Uneven
- Happy/Sad/Scary
Adjectives to Describe Music

loud  💀  😊  🎵

soft  🌸  🎵  quiet  🎵  🎵

fast  🌟  🎵  slow  🦶  🎵

long  🌿  🎵  short  🎵

even  🎵  🎵  not  🐱  even  🎵

happy  😍  sad  🙁  scary  😱
Verbs to Talk about, Sing, or Play Music

- Play
- Sing
- March (If the music sounds like something to march to, that’s because the beat is even.)
- Skip (If the music sounds like something you want to skip to, that’s because the beat is uneven.)
- Repeat
- Touch
- Hit
- Blow
- Pull
- Shake
- Beat
Verbs to Talk about, Sing, or Play Music

play  sing  
march  skip  
repeat  
touch  hit  blow  
pull  shake  beat
## Musical Instruments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Musical Instrument</th>
<th>Additional Instruments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Piano</td>
<td>Add the names of additional instruments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music synthesizer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drum</td>
<td>Organize the names of these new instruments within the current architecture of activity rows and/or pages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guitar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cymbal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tambourine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triangle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Musical Instruments

musical instrument

piano
music synthesizer
drum

bell
guitar
cymbal

tambourine
triangle

*customize vocabulary for additional instruments used in music class (e.g., kazoo, recorder, rhythm sticks, etc.) and in musical groups (e.g., horn, strings, etc.).
# Musical Terms 1

- **Music**
- **Tune** = part of the song you sing or play
- **Note** = one sound
- **Whole note** = note held for four counts
- **Half note** = note held for two counts
- **Quarter note** = note held for one count

- **Beat** = one sound
- **Tempo** = the speed of the music
- **Rhythm** = pattern of long and short sounds
Musical Terms 1

music

tune = part of the song you sing or play

note = one sound

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half note = note held for two counts

quarter note = note held for one count

beat = one sound

tempo = the speed of the music

rhythm = the pattern of long and short sounds
Musical Terms 2

• Scale* = step by step notes going up and down
• Octave = eight notes or sounds
• Bass clef = below middle c
• Treble clef = above middle c
• Melody = one note being sung at a time
• Harmony = two or more notes at the same time
• Pitch = the high and low of sounds
• Sharp = half step up
• Flat = half step down
• Major key = happy, cheerful sound to the music
• Minor key = sad, scary sound to the music
Musical Terms 2

scale = step by step and down

octave = eight notes or sounds

bass clef = below middle C

treble clef = above middle C

melody = one note being sung at a time

harmony = two or more notes at the same time

pitch = the high and low of sounds

sharp = half step up

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major key = happy sound to the music

minor key = sad or scary sound to the music
Musical Groups

- Solo = singing by yourself
- Duet = 2 people singing together
- Trio = 3 people singing together
- Quartet = 4 people singing together
- Quintet = 5 people singing together
- Choir = a large group singing together
- Band = people playing musical instruments together
Musical Groups

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Singing Voices

- Soprano – highest woman voice
- Alto – lower woman voice
- Tenor – highest man voice
- Baritone – middle man voice
- Bass – lowest man voice
Singing Voices

soprano = highest  
<br>woman  
<br>voice

alto = lower  
<br>woman  
<br>voice

tenor = highest  
<br>man  
<br>voice

baritone = middle  
<br>man  
<br>voice

bass = lowest  
<br>man  
<br>voice