

Music Technology Lesson Plan

- Exploring the MIDI Keyboard

Level: Beginning	
NAfME Standard	MU:Cr1.1 .T.1a: Generate melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic ideas for compositions and improvisations using digital tools .
Essential Question & Enduring Understanding	How do musicians generate creative ideas? The creative ideas, concepts, and feelings that influence musicians' work emerge from a variety of sources.
Materials	Midi Keyboard/Synthesizer/Controller Digital notes app, or paper & pencil
Duration	1-2 class periods
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MIDI, Synthesizer, Controller, Sample• Menu, file, key buttons and functions of digital tool• Symbols and icons used in the digital tool
Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Teacher introduces students to their workstations and explains that the class will be exploring the MIDI Keyboard/Synthesizer/Controller.2. Explain the definitions and difference between a MIDI controller and synthesizer. Have the students watch this short video explaining the difference between the two. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KNQP_A1uZ6Q3. Explain to the students which type of MIDI instrument they will be using in your class.5. Explain the usefulness and flexibility of the MIDI keyboard in that it can be used to create the sounds of a variety of instruments and sound fx. Demonstrate the capabilities of the instrument in your classroom. The various sample banks and sound effects that they can use. Demonstrate how to access the different sounds in each sound category.6. The primary objective for this lesson is for the students to dig in and explore the different sounds available to them with their MIDI instruments. Encourage them to press buttons and keys, try different categories, etc.7. Give the students 3-5 minutes to explore and then invite them to share a sound that they found that they want to share with the class.

	<p>8. Students will use their Music Tech journals or a digital note app to create a list of their favorite sounds in each category. Students should be encouraged to find at least 3-5 sounds in each category to create a list of sounds that they can easily find when they start creating sound projects.</p> <p>9. If they are actively exploring and discovering, then give them additional time or an additional class period to explore, collaborate and build their list of favorite sounds.</p>

<p>Dispositions</p>	<p><u>Collaboration</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with others interdependently to perform a task and to achieve shared goals. <p><u>Inquisitiveness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having curiosity and drive to learn more about known and unknown strategies, techniques, concepts, ideas and phenomena. <p><u>Openness and respect for the ideas and work of others</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening with understanding and empathy to others expressing differing ideas and/or cultural backgrounds. <p><u>Self-discipline and Perseverance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrating independence and self-motivation, managing impulsivity, and being comfortable with delayed gratification as they strive for excellence.
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<p>Knowledge</p>	<p><u>Structure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify correct and appropriate use of the digital tool to support creating or recording musical ideas Identify menus and files of digital tools that support creating or generating melodic, rhythmic, and harmonic ideas. Identify and learn to play digital instruments <p><u>Context</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and share information of musicians using digital tools for music creation and recording. <p><u>Evaluation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify, explain, and peer teach the main components of the digital tool used to create or record music. <p><u>Vocabulary</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Menu, file, key buttons and functions of digital tool Symbols and icons used in the digital tool
<p>Skills</p>	<p><u>Performing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present digital tool or instrument to peers, sharing new found knowledge of the digital tool(s)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share with peers, how to create or record music with tools <p><u>Creating</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Construct and document knowledge through exploration of the digital tool, applying new information to generate musical ideas. <p><u>Evaluating</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write and present reflections of work with the digital tool.
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Lesson plan created by: Heath Jones for www.mutechteacher.net.com

References

[NAfME Music Standards for Music Technology](#)

[NAfME Dispositions, Knowledge and Skills for Music Technology](#)