

A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards



Working Together

To support families and teachers in realizing the goals of the Colorado Academic Standards, this guide provides an overview of the learning expectations for Second Grade Music. This guide offers some learning experiences students may engage in during this school year, experiences that may also be supported at home.

Why Standards?

Created by Coloradans for Colorado students, the Colorado Academic Standards provide a grade-by-grade road map to help ensure students are successful in college, careers, and life. The standards aim to improve what students learn and how they learn in ten content areas – emphasizing critical-thinking, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, and communication as important life skills in the 21st century.

Music Education for Elementary Schools (k-5)

The music standards in the elementary years focus on General Music knowledge and skills to ensure a solid foundation for more specialized musical study in later years (band, choir, orchestra, composing, arranging). In each elementary grade, students investigate and perform various music styles and genres, examine the language of music through identifying and writing simple music notation, consider simple musical composition processes, and develop the ability to describe their own musical preferences as well as critique the music of others.

Where can I learn more?

- Contact your school district regarding local decisions related to standards, curriculum, resources, and instruction.
- Colorado Academic Standards Booklets: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/GradeLevelBooks.asp>
- Karol Gates, Colorado Arts Content Specialist at 720-202-9268, Gates_k@cde.state.co.us



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At the end of
Second Grade,
students can...

The Colorado Academic Standards in Music are organized by elements of the Creative Process:
Perform/Present → Create → Know/Comprehend → Critique/Evaluate/Refine

Music Learning Expectations for Second Grade

Expression of Music (Perform/Present)

Demonstrate how to watch a conductor and follow their hand movements; accurately keep time to 4 and 8 beat musical sequences.

Creation of Music (Create)

Create rhythm (beat) and note (duration and pitch) patterns.

Theory of Music (Know/Comprehend)

Use musical vocabulary to accurately identify music elements (dynamics-loud/soft, simple types of notes, patterns of notes, types of tones-low/high); recognize types of instruments.

Aesthetic Valuation of Music (Critique/Evaluate/Refine)

Explore and discuss music from various cultures; discuss music they like; demonstrate positive audience behavior (listening attentively and respectfully).

Throughout the Second Grade, you may find students successfully applying the elements of the creative process by...

- Singing or playing a variety of simple songs such as marching tunes with pitched instruments (mallet and bars) and non-pitched instruments (drums, wood blocks).
- Choosing how to move to music or following a teacher's movements.
- Composing, with a teacher and fellow students, a class song about a favorite story or character.
- Clapping to song rhythms.
- Discussing the history and age of a piece of music.
- Expressing opinions (like and dislikes) about particular prices of music.

