



Music is highly valued at Peak to Peak, both for itself and for the many ways it supports academic and social development. Students are challenged to pursue the goal of being “excellent musicians.” This can take place as they perform vocally or on instruments, as they demonstrate music literacy, as they create music, or as they appreciate the music and performances of others from around the world. The ultimate goal is to have students learn that music can bring them joy inside and outside of the music room – a joy that can be pursued for their entire lives.

The state of Colorado has established standards and benchmarks in four areas. “Expression of Music” involves performing vocally and/or on instruments. “Creation of Music” addresses composing. “Theory of Music” covers notation, musical terms, form, and the “rules” of music. “Aesthetic Valuation of Music” encourages students to appreciate performers, as well as the vast variety of musical styles, both locally and globally, and to make decisions as to what kind of music they might like outside of the classroom.

## **Curriculum and Curricular Materials**

The music curriculum at Peak to Peak addresses these standards. Aligning with the Kodály method of music education, students in grades K-3 learn folk songs, both from the US and from other countries. The songs become the basis for teaching musical expression and theory. Students use their knowledge and experience to create music, either to sing or to play on instruments. Students also listen to a wide variety of music – classical and from other cultures – and, when appropriate, express their impressions and feelings about the music in “listening journals.” The music series “Music Expressions,” published by Alfred, is used to provide supplementary literature and listening material.

Students start to learn the recorder in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. In 4<sup>th</sup> grade they receive a full trimester of recorder instruction, as well as vocal instruction. This helps to prepare them to make a choice in 5<sup>th</sup> grade as to whether they want to participate for the entire school year in choir, band, or orchestra. Students in each ensemble are taught by the secondary music specialists at Peak to Peak.

## **Assessments**

Peak to Peak students are regularly assessed on their performance and understanding. Instructors perform formative assessments, which are either written or are based on observations and musical performances in the classroom or in a concert setting. Summative assessments, written and/or aural, are administered at the conclusion of the units.

## **Music Curriculum Links**

Please click the links below to see grade level standards:

[Kindergarten](#)

[First Grade](#)

[Second Grade](#)

[Third Grade](#)

[Fourth Grade](#)

[Fifth Grade](#)