

Student-Centered Lesson Plan: Discovering Music through William's Journey

1. Learning Goal

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand the emotional and social impact of music on individuals, particularly in relation to loneliness and connection.
- Recognize the historical significance of Johann Sebastian Bach and the structure of fugues.
- Develop their musical skills by learning to play the Fugue in G minor.

2. Learning Objective

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Identify key themes from William's story, relating them to their own experiences or understanding of music.
- Explain the characteristics of a fugue and demonstrate basic musical skills on an instrument.
- Collaborate in small groups to create a personal connection to music, sharing their thoughts and feelings.

3. Assessment

To determine student progress, we will:

- Use informal assessments during group discussions to gauge understanding of themes and emotions.
- Evaluate students' participation in collaborative activities and their ability to express their thoughts on music and connection.
- Conduct a performance assessment where students will play a simplified version of the Fugue in G minor, showcasing their understanding of musical structure.

4. Learning Activity

Students will engage in the following activities:

- **Musical Exploration:** Students will listen to Bach's Little Fugue in G minor and discuss their feelings and thoughts about the music in small groups.

- **Creative Expression:** Each student will write a short narrative or poem about a personal experience with music, drawing parallels to William's journey.
- **Instrument Practice:** Students will practice playing the Fugue on keyboard instruments, focusing on the different voices in the fugue and how they interact.

5. Content

Instructors will provide:

- Background information on Johann Sebastian Bach, his family, and the context of his compositions, especially fugues.
- Guidance on the structure of a fugue, including the exposition and development sections, with examples from Bach's works.
- Resources such as sheet music and instructional videos to support students in learning to play the Fugue in G minor.

Classroom Characteristics

- **Active Participation:** Students will engage in discussions, musical performances, and collaborative projects.
- **Decision-Making Roles:** Students will choose how they wish to express their understanding of the material, whether through performance, artistic expression, or presentations.
- **Independent Work:** Allow students to explore musical instruments at their own pace, practicing either individually or in small groups.
- **Supportive Culture:** Create an environment where students feel comfortable sharing their thoughts and experiences, encouraging collaboration and mutual respect.

This student-centered approach fosters a deeper connection to music and helps students relate their personal experiences to those of William, ultimately enriching their understanding of both the narrative and the music itself.