

GAMES & ACTIVITIES FOR THE MUSIC CLASSROOM

This is a running document full of amazing tried and true activities, games, lesson plans that work for in person learning, virtual learning, and hybrid learning.

Any text in blue is a link to the activity!

Have an activity to add? This document is updated regularly as new information is shared and gathered.

Email: kristine.e.sharpe@gmail.com

1. [Kahoot](#)

Here are some music themed Kahoots. Kahoots are a great way to get kids socializing and interacting with each other. You can also create your own quizzes.

Fun/Social/Music Games	Educational
Popular Music Quiz	Choir Knowledge
Name That Tune	Choir Vocabulary
Disney Music Quiz	Note Naming
80s Music	Musical Terms Quiz

2. [Sing or Dare](#)

Sing or dare is a fun ice-breaker and confidence building singing game. Students take turns drawing cards and then perform the actions of the cards. It can be done in person, virtual or hybrid.

This is a great way to get students singing and having fun with each other!

3. Create a “Two Truths and a Lie” Kahoot, or FlipGrid

Ask the students to send you two truths and a lie about them. Put those answers into a Kahoot and then play it with your students. They need to guess which one is the lie. Alternatively, you can have students video record themselves on FlipGrid telling 2 truths and a lie about themselves and then play a few videos every day for the class to guess, or just have them do it in groups.

4. [Music in the Movies](#)

This unit includes 9 lessons for students to explore music in the movies. It includes a variety of different Worksheets, Youtube Videos, Edpuzzle, and Powerpoints.

5. Music Escape Rooms

There are many escape rooms available for purchase on TPT, but these were created specifically for music classes. These can be done in person or virtually. They can be done as a whole group or individually. They include self-grading assessments at the end! You can also [create your own!](#)

New:

[Room Bundle 1](#)

[Under the Sea](#)
(Rhythmic Notation & Values)

[The Lost Woods](#)
(Dynamics)

[Invitation to the Ball](#)
(Intervals & ear training)

[Escape Room Bundle 2](#)

[Treble in Space](#)
(Treble Note Naming)

[The Search for Bass Island](#)
(Bass Note Naming)

[Beethoven's 250th Birthday Bash!](#)
(Trivia & Games all about Beethoven's music & life)

[Music Escape Rooms SuperPack](#)
10 Music Escape Rooms & Self-Grading Assessments

6. Composition Unit using Loops ([Soundation](#), Garageband, Soundtrap)

Soundation is free to use that all of our students would be able to have access to. Here's a unit for students to create their own composition while also learning different musical forms (this one focuses on Ternary, could also do Binary, popular music forms, etc).

[Soundation Tutorial](#)

[Soundation Lesson](#)

[Soundation Unit](#)

7. Family Interviews

Students interview a grandparent (or parent) and ask what their favorite song was when they were a teen. The kids had to send me their list of questions, then send a video of the interview (all virtual, FaceTime recordings) and finally learn and perform the song for their grandparent (or any older family member), also on video.

8. [Teach Kodaly Hand Signs to a Family Member](#)

Students video record themselves teaching the Major Scale to a family member.

9. Teach a warm-up to a Family Member

Students teach a warm-up to someone in their family, video record and submit it, then write about it.

10. Create a Lip Sync Video

Create a lip sync video before the students have to record themselves singing.

11. Soundtrack of your life

Create a Youtube Playlist (or Spotify playlist)

Students create a playlist with only 10 songs on it and write about why they chose those songs. Students share their links with each other, they respond to another student's playlist and when we have a listening party featuring one song from everyone's list. s

12. Create a New Warm-up

Students create a new warm-up using a [virtual keyboard](#). Review scales and warm-ups we have sung in class. Use neutral syllables and/or solfege, or write your own [tongue twister](#) or poem.

13. Meme War

Students form groups to create music related memes! Great icebreaker/bonding activity!

[Example of the Winners 2019](#)

14. Discussion Videos and Writing Assignments

[Ted-Talk Videos & Writing Assignments](#)

[PBS videos on the Science of Music](#)

[Brief History of American Song](#)

[Sing That Thing!](#)

[3 Online Icebreakers](#)

["Ain't No Grave" by the Wartburg College Choir](#), then ["How do people who are deaf experience music?"](#)

15. Music Listening Journals

5 listening examples with various questions about the piece.

Additional [Music Listening Prompts](#).

16. Do a Spirit Week!

This is a great way to get kids connected! I love to do this on concert week to promote our choir pride to the school!

17. Year-End Talent Show

Can be done in person, or with student video recordings.

18. Musical Themed Days

Each day a new theme! Musical Motivation Monday, Theory Tuesday, Warm-up Wednesday, Thoughtful Thursday, Friday Fun Day!

19. Would You Rather?

This is a great getting-to-know-you activity for any classroom! This product will open up directly in Google Slides, and includes 20 already made questions, with the ability to add more if you want. If you have the PearDeck add-on (already set up in this package), students will have the ability to move stars over to the option that they prefer.

20. The Virtual Rhythm Randomizer

This website lets you choose a new rhythm reading exercise at random! Students can take turns clapping or counting their rhythm in front of the class, used in break out rooms, or done together as a group.

21. Sight Reading Factory

Free sight-reading examples for students of all experience levels.
This link takes you directly to the unison choral page.

22. Vocal Health Presentation

Now is a great time to teach your students about the importance of vocal health.
There are also some wonderful(ly gross) [videos on Youtube](#) that students find fascinating.

23. Body Percussion Template

Create a copy for yourself and then the notes are draggable. Can be used as a screen share for the entire class to try, or sent to smaller groups of students or individual students to try on their own.

24. Video Game Music Composition Project

Teach music concepts through music creation on [beepbox.co](#) (free, no sign in)

25. Parody Song Writing Project

Students create a parody of a popular song following specific guidelines. Rubric included.

26. The Masked Singer Project

Students choose a school appropriate karaoke track to learn and then record themselves on Flipgrid while wearing a mask. Student reveals their face in the end.

27. Choir Choice Board

A table of 20 activities for choir! Students complete one activity per day.

28. Music Video Project

Students choose between 3 options for a Google Slides Project:

[Soundtrack of my life](#), Lyric Video, [Popular Music Project](#)

29. Among Us Time Signature Virtual Game

Can be played individually or in a group. Uses a web browser, no login required!

30. Poison Melody & Poison Rhythm

This is very similar to the "Forbidden Pattern" game and can be shown in a video to the entire class.
Great way to reinforce hand signs, also! (** This now requires a log-in**)

31. World Music Project

In this project, students choose a country to research and complete the documents.

It includes a rubric for assessment.

[Website](#) for Research. [Kahoot Game](#).

32. Music Madness (Listening Activity)

Not just for March Madness, this is an excellent document with 4 categories:
Choral, TikTok, Women & Disney. Students listen to and vote for their favorites.

33. Welcome to Broadway

This game features 7 great Broadway shows and introduces students to them in a fun and engaging way!

34. Songs that Sound the Same Game

Have students play Name that Tune. However, it might not be the song they think it is! Compare the two songs.
Fair Use or Copyright Infringement? [Lesson Plan](#)

35. [Find the Rhythm Imposter Game](#)

For all the "Among Us" fans, here is a musical "Find the Imposter" game using google slides. Each rhythm pattern plays when you click the notes (be sure to click right on the notes, not above or below, or the slide will advance instead) choose the rhythm that is played wrong.

36. [Treble Clef Note Naming \(Video Game Edition\)](#)

Here's a Treble Clef review/practice page, video game style! There's also a [Bass edition!](#)

37. [Compliment or Confession](#)

This is a wonderful icebreaker/getting to know you/brain break activity. Students write down on an anonymous card a compliment about someone else in the class, or a confession, something personal about themselves. Every day, the teacher draws a few cards out and reads them. You can also put them on the wall or bulletin board. Kids love it!

38. Fast Friends

Students sit in two circles: an inner circle & outer circle, facing each other. [Spin the wheel](#) to ask the students a question, give students a minute to answer and share. Then the outer circle of students moves clockwise one chair. Repeat! This can also be done virtually by placing students into breakout rooms.

39. [Musical Themed Days](#)

Each day a new theme! Musical Motivation Monday, Theory Tuesday, Warm-up Wednesday, Thoughtful Thursday, Friday Fun Day!

40. Share a Quote of the Week (or day) [Here are 35 to get you started!](#)

41. [Round Wars!](#)

Make 3 packets of the same 15 easy rounds. Divide the class up randomly into 3 teams (can be as many as needed). Explain that they are to work together to figure out their specific round. Once they think they have it, come back to the room to sing it for me. Sing in unison- 1 point. Sing in 2 parts- 2 points. Sing in 3 parts- 3 points and so on. If it is not good enough, send them back with the same round. If it is good, take the "completed" round and exchange it for the next round. Keep track of points on the board. Some groups got through 13 out of 15 rounds... some got through about 6. I also set a timer of 30 minutes.

42. [Choir Youtube Research Assignment](#)

Great for emergency sub plans - students research a variety of youtube videos based on the criteria of the document.

43. 60 Second Handshakes

Students are put into pairs and are given 60 seconds to create a handshake or a dance. Students find new partners and teach their handshake/dance to each other. This is great for a quick brain break!

44. Make the Shape

Students are put into small groups. Students are given 90 seconds to create a musical symbol out of their bodies (most likely laying on the floor). Treble clef is a blast to watch!

45. Telephone Tongue Twisters

Students in small groups form lines. The first person in the line comes to the teacher and reads a tongue twister, memorizes it, and takes it back to their group. They say it via telephone line (whisper in one ear, the next person whispers, etc). The last person has to come to the teacher and say what they heard.

46. Busted!

Rhythm Game designed for rhythm assessment. Best in groups of 4. Lots of fun!!

47. Sight-Singing Program

These are google slides that really start at the beginning level of solfege (level 1) and then work into skips and more complex rhythms (level 2). There are fillable boxes for every slide of level 1.

48. Virtual Choir Performance Unit

Students work on a song throughout the unit with the culmination being their final video recording submission. The teacher compiles and edits the individual videos into one. This could also be done with just audio and not video and is much more simple that way. Youtube even has a "premier" option so you could ask students and families to all tune in at the same time to watch the concert together.

Zoom Tips for Virtual & Hybrid Learning

Try letting your students into your virtual classroom a few minutes early and leave your camera off. Give them a chance to interact with each other, like they would when walking into your real class. You could screen share some nice background music to set the vibe for the day.

I really love these low-fi [videos](#), and there are so many to choose from:
just be sure to “hide comments” before streaming these ;))

Google Slides Resources - [Welcome to Virtual Choir](#)

This is a Google Slides presentation that can be used as a template and adapted to fit your specific needs. It's a great way to let your students get to know you and set some expectations for your class. It includes some premade gifs/fun pictures but you can also switch them out for your own. If you have the PearDeck add-on for Google Slides, there are a couple of slides that are intractable for the students.

Youtube Channels:

- [2 Minute Music Theory](#) - Quick & Interesting Music Theory Lessons
- [Sing Geek](#) - Great vocal health techniques and private lessons!
- [Free Choir Director Resources](#) - Warmups, advice, and lessons on youtube.
- [Choir Warm-ups Playlist](#) - Fun warm-ups that your students can sing along with.
- [The Dum Dum Song](#) - Maybe give out a [dum-dum](#) after they learn all the moves and sing it right!

Resources/Websites:

- [Music Theory FlashCards](#) - Super interactive and good for all levels, has games as well!
- [Secret Symphony](#) - Secret Symphony is a free to play music education game all about the instruments in the symphony orchestra! The goal of the game is to save Tempo Town from the monstrous Earworm, who is stealing music out of people's heads. It is currently being play tested.
- [The Choral Window](#) - The Choral Window is an online resource that engages, educates, and inspires directors to connect with each other and share innovative or learned choral and music literacy techniques that will energize and enhance your rehearsal environment. Great resource for teachers.
- [Vocology](#) - Fantastic lessons and explanations of the vocal mechanism and how it functions. **TONS** of resources!
- [Musictheory.net](#) - Updated lessons and tutorials on music theory
- [Mario Paint Composer](#) - A cute little composing website that allows students to make video game compositions.
- [BeepBox](#) - Composition using sequencer - No login required.
- [Pitchy Ninja](#) - Have a student who has trouble matching pitch? This game is AMAZING! There are tons of different levels/activities for them to sing along with and it tracks how low/high/what they're doing wrong, etc.
- [High School Choral Resources](#) - A repository for ideas and solutions!

- [Wheel of Warm-Ups](#) – Tons of warm-ups with recording tracks!
- [Incredibox](#) – Create loops with a beat boxer buddy
- [Tone Matrix](#) – A pentatonic step sequencer. Click tiles to make music.
- [Free Google Classroom Banner Templates](#) (800x200) – Made for music classes! Edit them to fit your own classroom's needs!
- [Another comprehensive list of virtual lesson plans](#)

Seasonal Activities

Fall/Halloween

- [Halloween Activities Safe Share](#): Here's a presentation with tons of Safe Share rhythm practice videos, boomwhacker play-alongs, listening selections and movement activities for the season.
- [Fall Escape Rooms](#)

Winter/Christmas

- [Sight-Singing Christmas Carols in 2 Parts](#)
 - [Youtube Sing-a-Long](#)

Choir Olympics

End of Year Awards Banquet

- Great way to end the school year!

Choir Recruitment Ideas

Check out this doc for fresh ideas on how to recruit students into your program!