



Grade 5: Instrumental Families

Week 3

Objective: Learn the various instruments and the families associated with the specific instruments.

Objective: Learn to identify instruments by sight.

Directions: Read the information about instruments below and play the musical game. For this week, you must try to play the game, but you do not need to turn anything in or complete a google form. See how many instruments you can identify!

Instruments and their families

Families

- Instruments can be split up into different groups, or families.
- These relate to the way an instrument is played, the sound it makes or the material it is made from.
- The main groups are: Strings, Brass, Woodwind, and Percussion.

Strings

- Stringed instruments are "chordophones" which means they make sound by vibration of their strings.
- This family includes:
 - Violin
 - Viola
 - Cello
 - Double Bass
 - Harp
 - Guitar (electric and acoustic)
- All except guitars are found in symphony orchestras unless a specific piece is written featuring the guitar.

Brass

- Brass instruments are - surprisingly enough - usually made of brass.
- They are "aerophones" so produce sound as the air blown through them vibrates in the tubes.
- They use a series of valves (or a slide) to produce the required pitch, passing the air through a longer or shorter distance of tubes.
- The longer the distance, the lower the note.
- Some Brass instruments include:
 - Trumpet
 - Cornet
 - French Horn
 - Trombone
 - Euphonium
 - Tuba

Woodwind

- Woodwind instruments are, as their name suggests, were first made from wood, and create sound with the aid of wind.
- They are "aerophones", and produce a note in most cases by air passing across a reed, which causes air inside the instrument to vibrate before being amplified.
- The exceptions to this are flute and piccolo (no reed needed).
- These instruments can be single- or double-reeded. Some examples are:
 - Piccolo
 - Flute

- Clarinet (Single Reed)
- Bass Clarinet(Single Reed)
- Saxophone (Single Reed)
- Oboe(Double Reed)
- English Horn (Double Reed)
- Bassoon (Double Reed)
- Contrabassoon (Double Reed)

Percussion

- Most percussion instruments are "idiophones" - make sound when hit - or "membranophones" - make a sound through the vibration of a stretched skin.
- The percussion family is very large, and includes:
 - Timpani (kettle drums)
 - Drums
 - Cymbals
 - Maracas
 - Bongos
 - Woodblocks
 - Piano/keyboards
- Can you think of some more??

Click on the link below and play "Instrument Spin-Off

http://musictechteacher.com/music_quizzes/c3_quiz_instrument_spinoff1/play.html

How did you do?

