

**Plymouth Middle Schools
Music Program
Course Syllabus**

Course Name Chorus
Grades Grade 6

Course Description

This course is an entry-level vocal ensemble for sixth grade students. Emphasis will be on developing vocal technique, ensemble skills, and performance experience with musical styles from a variety of musical genre. Students will learn to sing independently using partner songs, rounds and will begin to sing in 2 and 3 parts. The chorus will develop musical reading skills using standard notation. Students will be expected to participate in all performances both during school hours and evening performances.

Instructional Objectives

Students will:

1. Use correct vocal techniques and posture;
2. Use correct pronunciation skills with clear consonants and open vowel sounds;
3. Sing in 2 parts and simple 3 part music;
4. Improvise melodies and compose simple melodies;
5. Identify and describe basic elements of music: beat, tempo, rhythm, meter, pitch, melody, texture, dynamics, and form;
6. Use appropriate terminology in describing music, music notation, and music performances;
7. Respond to music using movement and choreography;
8. Develop and maintain an effective practice routine; and
9. Develop and demonstrate appropriate rehearsal, performance, and audience behavior.

Text and Instructional Materials

Middle School Choral Library
Selected choral octavos
Sight – singing sheets

Performance Opportunities

Students will perform in regularly scheduled evening performances throughout the school year. Additional performance opportunities may include:

All – Town Chorus Festival
Invitational concerts

Grading Policy

Student grades are determined by their performance through the following tasks and assignments:

Performances	40%
Performance Assessments/Participation	30%
Homework and practice	15%
Cooperation/Class Preparation	15%

Learning Sequence

Term 1

Review note reading
Voice placement and range exploration
Sight singing
Review of intervals

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Improvisation assignment
Dynamics and expression markings
Preparation for holiday concert
Singing simple rounds and 2-pt

Term 2

Holiday concert
Independent singing (small ensembles)
Rhythm tests
Improvisation and composition assignment
Sight singing
Preparation for All-Town Choral Festival
Introduction to singing simple 3-pt

Term 3

Group and individual assessment
Improvisation and composition assignment
Sight singing
Preparation for spring concert and All Town
Possible Music Festival/Competition
All Town Choral Festival
3-part singing

Term 4

Spring concert
Final performance assessments
Sight singing
3-part singing
Composition assignment
Final exam
End of the year review/reflections