



**BEGINNING ORCHESTRA 6**  
**GRADES 6-8**

*Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In these courses attention is focused on introductory music fundamentals, technical achievement, and acquisition of performance and rehearsal skills through exposure to a variety of literature. Membership is open to all students who wish to extend their knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of music by learning to play a wind, string, or percussion instrument. No previous experience is required. Students enrolled should be capable of completing the requirement for Proficiency Level A and B. The beginning student is usually expected to furnish his or her own instrument.

**PREREQUISITE**

None

**OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE**

Band 7

**REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK**

Essential Elementary 2000, String Method Book

**THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ATTITUDES THAT COMPRISE THE BEGINNING ORCHESTRA 6 COURSE ARE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS FROM THE PRESCRIBED CURRICULUM:**

**TOPICS OF STUDY**

**ORCHESTRA**

**LEVEL A**

**FUNDAMENTALS**

- 1.1 Identify the instruments of the string family
  - E 1.1.1 Identify a violin, viola, cello, and bass by sight
  - E 1.1.2 Demonstrate an awareness that instruments are made in half, three quarter, and full sizes
- 1.2 Demonstrate proper care and maintenance of instruments and accessories (SOL – IB.17)
  - E 1.2.1 Identify and utilize accessories necessary for the proper maintenance and use of the instrument
- 1.3 Identify basic parts of each instrument and bow (SOL – IB.17)
  - E 1.3.1 Identify basic parts of each instrument and bow by sight
  - E 1.3.2 Name the open strings of the instrument being studied
- 1.4 Demonstrate appropriate knowledge of basic music notation (SOL – IB.21)
  - E 1.4.1 Identify notes and terms found in the text and music appropriate to A competency level
- 1.5 Demonstrate an awareness of basic rhythmic and metric values (SOL – IB.4)
  - E 1.5.1 Count and perform whole, half, and quarter notes and rests with a steady beat (SOL – AD.4)
  - E 1.5.2 Define and count 4/4 meter

**INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE SKILLS**

- 1.6 Demonstrate proper platform (SOL – IB.4)
  - E 1.6.1 Demonstrate proper sitting and standing positions (SOL – II.1)
  - E 1.6.2 Demonstrate correct instrument position (SOL – IAD.1)
  - E 1.6.3 Demonstrate correct bow position (SOL – IB.4)
  - E 1.6.4 Demonstrate correct left hand position (SOL – II.4)
- 1.7 Demonstrate an awareness of appropriate bowing and pizzicato technique (SOL – IB.5)

- E 1.7.1 Demonstrate detaché bowing, pizzicato, and slurring (SOL – II.5)
- E 1.7.2 Demonstrate appropriate bow speed and length
- 1.8 Demonstrate an awareness of basic left hand technique
  - E 1.8.1 Perform basic finger placement in first position of all four strings
  - E 1.8.2 Perform a one octave D Major scale
- 1.9 Identify and label the pitch produced on the open strings (SOL – IB.3, II.3, IAD.3, IAR.3)
  - E 1.9.1 Sing a corresponding pitch produced on the open strings
  - E 1.9.2 Play a matching pitch produced on the open strings
- 1.10 Generate a characteristic tone on the instrument (SOL – IB.2, II.2, IAD.2, IAR.2)
  - E 1.10.1 Demonstrate an appropriate tone on each string

**ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE**

- 1.11 Demonstrate the ability to translate written music notation into musical sounds
  - E 1.11.1 Count and clap selected rhythmic figures
  - E 1.11.2 Sing note names
- 1.12 Participate in ensemble experiences (SOL – IB.22, IB.19, IB.14)
  - E 1.12.1 Participate in scheduled rehearsals
  - E 1.12.2 Participate in performances
  - E 1.12.3 Respond to appropriate conducting gestures
  - E 1.12.4 Demonstrate proper attacks and releases
  - E 1.12.5 Demonstrate appropriate concert and rehearsal etiquette
  - E 1.12.6 Perform music from a variety of cultures, styles, and historical periods (SOL – II.24, IAD.24)
  - E 1.12.7 Provide answers to instructors questions regarding individual and group performance (SOL – IB.19)

**LITERATURE**

- 1.13 Demonstrate knowledge of music repertoire
  - E 1.13.1 Perform repertoire appropriate to A competency level

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

- 1.14 Student will identify options in music using available technology (SOL IB.20, II.20, IAB.20)

E 2.5.1 Sing melodic intervals in sets of two pitches and identify as being the same or different

## LEVEL B

### FUNDAMENTALS

- 2.1 Demonstrate appropriate knowledge of basic music notation
  - E 2.1.1 Identify notes and terms found in the text and music appropriate to B competency level
- 2.2 Demonstrate an awareness of basic rhythmic and metric values
  - E 2.1.1 Identify notation and terms found in the text and music appropriate to B competency level
  - E 2.2.2 Count and perform eighth and dotted half notes and rests
  - E 2.2.3 Define and count 3/4, 2/4, and "C" (common time)

### INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE SKILLS

- 2.3 Demonstrate an awareness of appropriate bowing technique (SOL – IB.10)
  - E 2.3.1 Perform slurs tremelo, hooked bowing, and spiccato on each string and slurs between open strings
  - E 2.3.2 Perform notes utilizing appropriate bow length
- 2.4 Demonstrate an awareness of basic left hand technique (SOL – IB.6)
  - E 2.4.1 Perform the finger patterns in the scales of D, G, and C Major
  - E 2.4.2 Perform a one octave G Major scale starting on open G (except bass violin)
  - E 2.4.3 Perform a one octave C Major scale
- 2.5 Demonstrate the ability to discern two pitches as being the same or different

### ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE SKILLS

- 2.6 Participate in ensemble experiences
  - E 2.6.1 Participate in scheduled rehearsals
  - E 2.6.2 Participate in performances (SOL – IB.22, II.22)
  - E 2.6.3 Respond to appropriate conducting gestures
  - E 2.6.4 Demonstrate appropriate concert and rehearsal etiquette
  - E 2.6.5 Participate in co-curricular and cross disciplinary activities
  - E 2.6.6 Associate terminology common to music with other disciplines (SOL – IB.23, II.23, IAD.23)

### LITERATURE

- 2.7 Demonstrate knowledge of music repertoire
  - E 2.7.1 Perform repertoire appropriate to B competency level



## **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

A H E A D O F T H E C U R V E

### **Mission Statement**

*The Virginia Beach City Public Schools, in partnership with the entire community, will empower every student to become a life-long learner who is a responsible, productive and engaged citizen within the global community.*

Dr. James G. Merrill, Superintendent

### **DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

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