



# Xylophone

Lesson Plan





## Xylophone Lesson Plan

**Anchor Standard 7 (Responding):** Perceive and analyze artistic work.

**Enduring Understanding:** Individuals choose music based on their interests, experiences, musical understanding, and each musical work's purpose.

**Essential Question:** How do individuals choose music to experience?

**Anchor Standard 8 (Responding):** Construct meaningful interpretations of artistic work.

**Enduring Understanding:** Through their use of elements and structures of music, creators and performers provide clues to their expressive intent.

**Essential Question:** How do we discern the musical performers' emotions, thoughts, and ideas?

**Anchor Standard 9 (Responding):** Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.

**Enduring Understanding:** The personal evaluation of musical work(s) and performance(s) is informed by analysis, interpretation, and teacher- or student-established criteria.

**Essential Question:** How do we judge the quality of musical work(s) and performance(s)?

**Anchor Standard 10 (Connecting):** Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.

**Enduring Understanding:** Musicians connect their personal interests, experiences, ideas, and knowledge to creating, performing, and responding.

**Essential Question:** How do musicians make meaningful connections to creating, performing, and responding?

**Objectives: Student(s) will:**

- Learn the history of the xylophone
- Listen to two xylophone songs
- Compare and contrast xylophone songs

**Materials:** Computer, Speakers, Smartboard, Xylophones

Illinois State Standards



# BACH to School

TIME	SONGS/ACTIVITIES	PROCEDURES
3-7 mins	<b>Listen and Watch</b> (listen to all or a portion)	<b>"Danse Macabre"</b> by Saint-Saëns Start at 2 minutes in and listen to how the xylophones and other percussion instruments mimic the sound of skeletons (piece means "Dance of Death").
15-20 mins	<b>History of the Xylophone</b>	Students share what they already know about the xylophone. <a href="#">Xylophone History</a> (click on link) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Pitched percussion</li> <li>b. Different kinds of xylophones/pitched percussion: marimba, glockenspiel, vibraphone</li> <li>c. Bars made from wood or metal and played by hitting with a drum stick called a mallet</li> <li>d. Xylophones first found in Africa and Asia</li> <li>e. First used in Humperdinck's opera <i>Hansel and Gretel</i></li> </ul> Talented percussionists can play with four mallets – two in each hand! Example video: <a href="#">"Super Mario Bros." theme</a> on marimba performed by Aaron Grooves
2 mins	<b>Listen and Watch</b>	<b>"Flight of the Bumble Bee"</b> performed by Dano Cracchiolo
10 mins	<b>Compare and Contrast</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which examples do you prefer and why?</li> <li>• How do the examples sound similar?</li> <li>• How do the examples sound different?</li> </ul>
15 mins	<b>Depth Questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do individuals choose music to experience?</li> <li>• How do we discern the musical performers' emotions, thoughts, and ideas?</li> <li>• How do we judge the quality of musical work(s) and performance(s)?</li> <li>• How do musicians make meaningful connections to creating, performing, and responding?</li> </ul>

