

Learning Centers in the Music Room

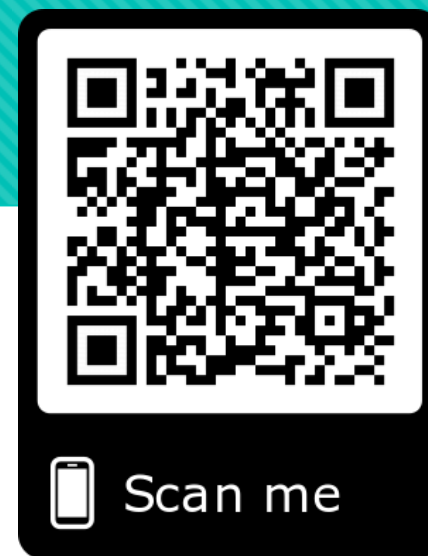
CPS Lesson Lab Demonstration

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What are Music MILAs?

- Managed Independent Learning Activities
- A.K.A. Music Centers, Music Stations
- Include a variety of music learning modalities – Exploring, Reading, Writing, Listening, Moving, Singing, and Playing Instruments
- Reliant on space, materials, classroom organization and management
- Allows time to address specific learning needs or individual/small group assessment

My Seating Chart

My classroom rug is this color.

Each row has a color-corresponding bin with writing supplies. One student from each row is responsible for retrieving the bin and passing out its materials to the row.

Seats don't change unless necessary.

Class:

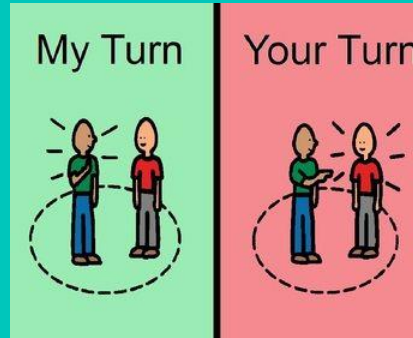
Jobs

Bins (Boards and Pencils)	Paper Passers	Paper Collectors	Chairs	Instrument Clean Up
Point Keeper	Messenger	Librarian/Headphones	ipad Tech/Headphones	Computer/Sound Tech
Group Leader	Group Leader	Group Leader	Group Leader	Group Leader

MILA Expectations



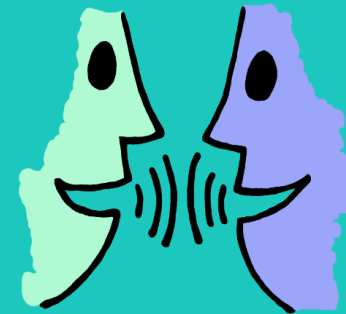
Stay With Your Group



Share and Take Turns



Do the Assigned Activity



Check Your Volume

Transitions



Bell 1

- Headphones Off
- Movement Stops
- Materials Returned

Students Point to Next
Activity



Bell 2

- Transition to Next
Activity

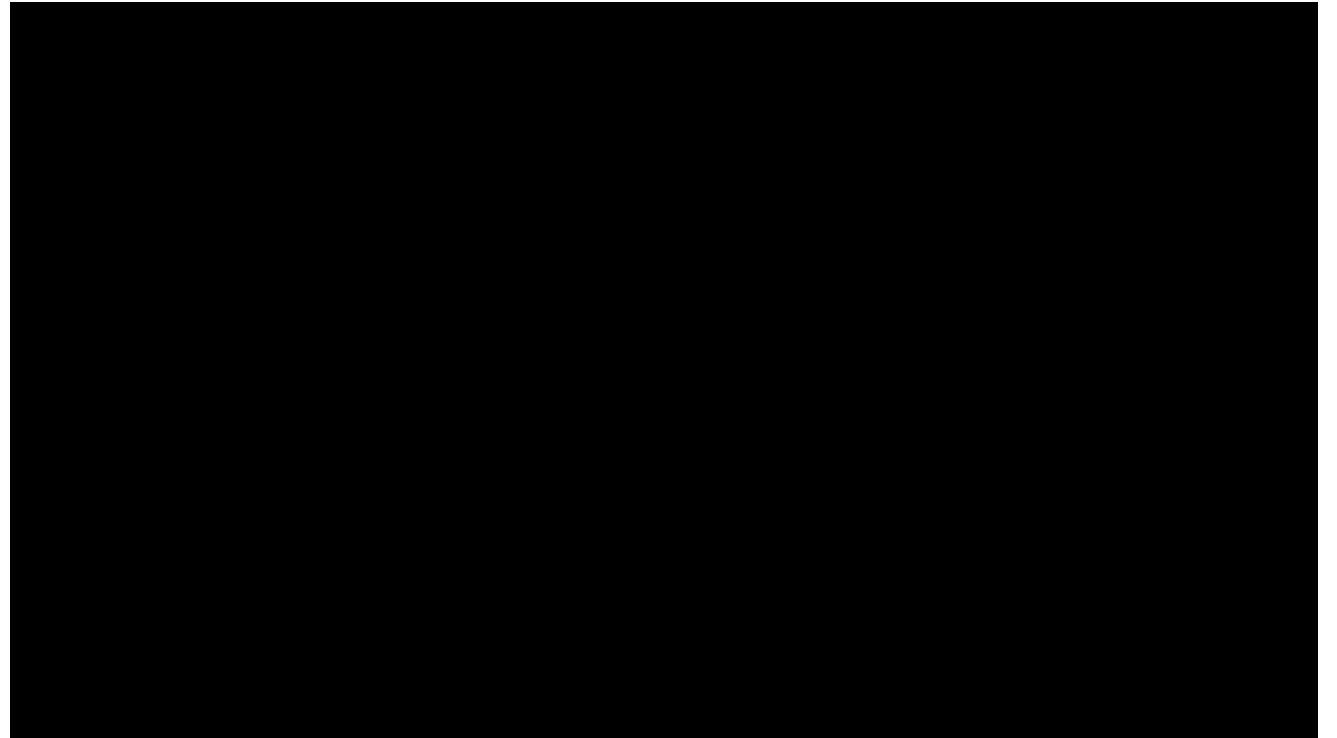
In Action...

Kindergarten Demo



Beginning MLAs for Kindergarten

- Vocal Exploration
- Ribbon Wand Movement
- Syllable Sorting
(Teacher Managed)
- Library
- Keyboard Exploration



Helpful Tips for Implementation

- Find out if students have MILA/Center time in the general classroom and use similar setup, expectations, and student groupings.
- Group sizes (no more than six students) and familiarity of working in groups is important for student engagement and management.
- Don't introduce new activities, songs/texts, manipulatives, or skills during an independent center.
- Reduce paper waste by putting worksheets in clear folder or laminate.

Helpful Tips for Implementation Continued...

- Reach out for extra help, especially with the younger elementary!
Consider a parent volunteer or classroom aid to help at a specific center.
- Student jobs help in management and clean up of centers.
Consider a designated leader for each group, technology manager (iPads, chromebooks, audio tech), librarian, headphone organizer, paper collector, etc.
- Centers can take time to set up, especially with technology and/or manipulatives. Make some centers low-maintenance, go-to activities like Listening Center, iPads, Classroom Library, Keyboards.
- Music MILAs are not perfectly quiet, so consider the engagement and noise level of each center.

Favorite Worksheet and Center Resources

Worksheets	Hands-On	Technology
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Solfa Ready, Set, Print Worksheets○ Music Worksheets- Treble/Bass, Line/Space, High/Low: 30 Pages○ Instrument Families Workbook○ Piano Activity Booklets○ No Prep Ukulele Worksheets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Beat Blocks○ Music Koosh Ball Games for Smart Boards○ "Chumbara" Singing Center○ Oh, Fiddlesticks!○ Think Fun Move and Groove Dance Game○ Dance Ribbon Streamers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Groove Pizza○ Incredibox○ Keezy and Keezy Drummer○ Sketch-a-Song○ Rhythm Cat Lite○ Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra by Benjamin Britten○ Soundtrap EDU

Continued Reading

- Aileen Miracle – ["LEARNING CENTERS IN THE MUSIC CLASSROOM"](#) and ["GIVING STUDENTS CHOICE DURING CENTERS"](#)
- Ashley Queen - [CENTERS](#)

Workshop MLA Activities

- Koosh Ball Rhythm Reading (K-5, independent with computer/smartboard)
- iPad Apps (K-8, independent)
- Ukulele Skill Builder (5-8, independent)
- “Chumbara” Singing Center (2-5, independent)