

# How can **Note Knacks** help your students achieve the NAFME Music Standards?

## PREKINDERGARTEN (AGE 2-4)

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### 1. Content Standard: Singing and playing instruments

Achievement Standard: Children

**COMPLEMENTS** a. use their voices expressively as they speak, chant, and sing

**COMPLEMENTS** b. sing a variety of simple songs in various keys, meters, and genres alone and with a group, becoming increasingly accurate in rhythm and pitch

**COMPLEMENTS** c. experiment with a variety of instruments and other sound sources

**MEETS** d. play simple melodies and accompaniments on instruments

- ✓ **Children practice singing short compositions they have written themselves, both individually and with their classmates**

### 2. Content Standard: Creating music

Achievement Standard: Children

**MEETS** a. improvise songs to accompany their play activities

**MEETS** b. improvise instrumental accompaniments to songs, recorded selections, stories, and poems

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** c. create short pieces of music, using voices, instruments, and other sound sources

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** d. invent and use original graphic or symbolic systems to represent vocal and instrumental sounds and musical ideas

- ✓ **Note Knacks provide concrete manipulatives to guide children in creating original music in symbolic notation. Because children represent sound through pictures, they are able to remember their compositions and share them with their classmates.**

### 3. Content Standard: Responding to music

Achievement Standard: Children

**MEETS** b. respond through movement to music of various tempos, meters, dynamics, modes, genres, and styles to express what they hear and feel in works of music

**MEETS** c. participate freely in music activities

- ✓ **The Note Knacks method requires both a tactile and kinesthetic response. By dragging a finger across each notation manipulative or their symbolic notation while singing, they show length as well as tempo. This activity helps to introduce all musical elements.**

## 4. Content Standard: Understanding music

Achievement Standard: Children

**MEETS** a. use their own vocabulary and standard music vocabulary to describe voices, instruments, music notation, and music of various genres, styles, and periods from diverse cultures

**MEETS** b. sing, play instruments, move, or verbalize to demonstrate awareness of the elements of music and changes in their usage

**COMPLEMENTS** c. demonstrate an awareness of music as a part of daily life

- ✓ **Note Knacks facilitates the creation process in a way that is clear, concise and logical. It relates standard music vocabulary to a child's everyday vocabulary, so concepts are easy to grasp. Children compose from the start and discover how to apply musical elements to fit the situation.**

## GRADES K-4

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### 1. Content Standard: Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music

Achievement Standard: Students

**MEETS** a. sing independently, on pitch and in rhythm, with appropriate timbre, diction, and posture, and maintain a steady tempo

**COMPLEMENTS** b. sing expressively, with appropriate dynamics, phrasing, and interpretation

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** d. sing ostinatos, partner songs, and rounds

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** e. sing in groups, blending vocal timbres, matching dynamic levels, and responding to the cues of a conductor

- ✓ **Children's Note Knacks compositions can be incorporated into simple songs, ensembles, rounds and musical story telling – the choice is up to them.**

### 2. Content Standard: Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music

Achievement Standard: Students

**MEETS** a. perform on pitch, in rhythm, with appropriate dynamics and timbre, and maintain a steady tempo

**MEETS** b. perform easy rhythmic, melodic, and chordal patterns accurately and independently on rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic classroom instruments

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** d. echo short rhythms and melodic patterns

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** e. perform in groups, blending instrumental timbres, matching dynamic levels, and responding to the cues of a conductor

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** f. perform independent instrumental parts while other students sing or play contrasting parts

- ✓ **With Note Knacks, children can add full instrumentation and work in groups to create a class composition. Note Knacks addresses standard notation in a simple, logical and concise method that reinforces lesson retention.**

### 3. Content Standard: Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments

Achievement Standard: Students

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** a. improvise “answers” in the same style to given rhythmic and melodic phrases

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** b. improvise simple rhythmic and melodic ostinato accompaniments

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** c. improvise simple rhythmic variations and simple melodic embellishments on familiar melodies

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** d. improvise short songs and instrumental pieces, using a variety of sound sources, including traditional sounds, nontraditional sounds available in the classroom, body sounds, and sounds produced by electronic means

- ✓ **The Note Knacks method provides an intuitive structure so that children can explore sound in a whole new way. This hands-on experience will ensure their improvisations will be more calculated and productive.**

### 4. Content Standard: Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines

Achievement Standard: Students

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** a. create and arrange music to accompany readings or dramatizations

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** b. create and arrange short songs and instrumental pieces within specified guidelines

- ✓ **Note Knacks makes it possible for children as young as kindergarten to compose and remember additions to music already used in the classroom.**

### 5. Content Standard: Reading and notating music

Achievement Standard: Students

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** a. read whole, half, dotted half, quarter, and eighth notes and rests in 2/4 , 3/4 , and 4/4 meter signatures

**COMPLEMENTS** b. use a system (that is, syllables, numbers, or letters) to read simple pitch notation in the treble clef in major keys

**COMPLEMENTS** c. identify symbols and traditional terms referring to dynamics, tempo, and articulation and interpret them correctly when performing

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** d. use standard symbols to notate meter, rhythm, pitch, and dynamics in simple patterns presented by the teacher

- ✓ **With Note Knacks, children as early as kindergarten learn how to use all notes to compose a complete work. When standard notation becomes appropriate, the transition is smooth and easy.**

### 6. Content Standard: Listening to, analyzing, and describing music

Achievement Standard: Students

**MEETS** a. identify simple music forms when presented aurally

**COMPLEMENTS** b. demonstrate perceptual skills by moving, by answering questions about, and by describing aural examples of music of various styles representing diverse cultures

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** c. use appropriate terminology in explaining music, music notation, music instruments and voices, and music performances

- ✓ **Thoughtful analysis is a natural consequence to composition. Children will understand how to listen, describe and evaluate music because they have used those elements when composing their own pieces. Children will be able to self-correct their compositions by using the time-signature frames with the Note Knacks notation manipulatives.**

## **7. Content Standard: Evaluating music and music performances**

Achievement Standard: Students

**COMPLEMENTS** a. devise criteria for evaluating performances and compositions

**MEETS** b. explain, using appropriate music terminology, their personal preferences for specific musical works and styles

- ✓ **Note Knacks encourages children to think critically about music by evaluating their own compositions and singing or playing the compositions of their classmates.**

## **8. Content Standard: Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts**

Achievement Standard: Students

**COMPLEMENTS** a. identify similarities and differences in the meanings of common terms used in the various arts

**MEETS AND EXCEEDS** b. identify ways in which the principles and subject matter of other disciplines taught in the school are interrelated with those of music

- ✓ **Note Knacks employs techniques from the regular education classroom, establishing clear relationships between music, math, and language. Simple rhythm exercises show the connection between music and dance. By representing sound visually and physically, Note Knacks helps children build their own bridges between the visual and performance arts.**

## **9. Content Standard: Understanding music in relation to history and culture**

Achievement Standard: Students

**COMPLEMENTS** b. describe in simple terms how elements of music are used in music examples from various cultures of the world

**COMPLEMENTS** c. identify various uses of music in their daily experiences and describe characteristics that make certain music suitable for each use

**COMPLEMENTS** d. identify and describe roles of musicians in various music settings and cultures

**MEETS** e. demonstrate audience behavior appropriate for the context and style of music performed

- ✓ **Because children compose from the beginning, they must think about using musical elements to define their works. Instructors can easily use the opportunity to point out why and how various composers and cultures use these elements to make their music unique.**