

First Assembly Christian School Music Curriculum

Elementary School

We cover six units in music each year. Each grade level builds on the previous year as students increase in their knowledge and skill. The six units are as follows:

1. *Being God's Musician.*

We cover topics such as the origin and early development of music, how God placed music everywhere, everything that has breath praises God, musicians in the Bible, Bible stories that involve music, praise and worship and music now and forever.

2. *I am an instrument.*

In this unit we cover the voice, posture, good breathing techniques, pronunciation and diction, hearing and pitch development, range, phrasing, tone, and expression. We use a variety of games to make this a fun unit.

3. *Instrumentation*

This unit covers classroom instruments – unpitched and pitched, orchestra instruments, band instruments, multicultural instruments, and instruments used in the Bible. Students learn how to care for instruments, how to hold and play classroom instruments, and in fourth and fifth grades they learn to play the recorder.

4. *Being an artist.*

Students discover how to make music 'colorful and interesting' by using the elements of music: color, form, dynamics, tempo, beat, rhythm, and pitch. We also develop creativity in movements, hand motions, signing, dance, choreography, and free expression of music.

5. *Composers*

Each grade level covers certain famous composers, learning about their lives and works. We also listen to multicultural music from composers and countries all over the world. Students learn about notation and theory of music.

6. *Being a star*

This is our performance unit. Each year students have an opportunity to perform songs in class, chapel, PTO meetings, See you at the Pole, and during special events. Students in kindergarten through second grade perform a Christmas musical and grades three through five perform a non-seasonal musical at the end of the year.