



Band and Orchestra

Distance Learning

Choice Board (April 6-10)



This week, students should choose one activity from each column (Play, Teach, Read, Explore) as they wish/have time for over the course of the week (4 activities total) . These activities are only intended to provide your child with ideas for practice this week.

Play	Teach	Read	Explore
<p>Send a Musical Greeting Card. Call a family member or friend and perform a song for them.</p>	<p>The Music Alphabet Teach a friend or family the Music Alphabet (A-B-C-D-E-F-G). Say it forwards and backwards five times.</p>	<p>History Find two yellow history boxes in your Essential Elements book. Read about the composer that wrote the song.</p>	<p>Organize your binder: Clip music, theory and other loose sheets into your binder rings. You may recycle any old practice guides, news sheets, and concert announcements.</p>
<p>Blast from the Past: Look in your binder or Essential Elements book, and play three songs from when you first started playing your instrument.</p>	<p>Steady Tone Explain to a family member or friend how to get a steady tone on your instrument. Play them a few examples of your best steady tone.</p>	<p>Flash Cards Go through your flash card set three times. Practice saying letter names, fingering the notes, or reading and fingering at the same time.</p>	<p>Clean your Instrument Wipe down the outside of your case, and the handle, a sanitizing wipe. Vacuum out your case. Follow the instrument cleaning procedures for your instrument on the back page.</p>
<p>Practice with a Friend With permission, Call a friend (or use Facetime or Skype) and play a song for each other.</p>	<p>Length of Notes What do you change when you play these different notes? Show someone the difference.</p> 	<p>Instrument Posture: The Basics Look at the very beginning of Essential Elements for the Instrument Posture page. Read the directions they have - is anything different than what you know?</p>	<p>Mozart Melody Change the rhythm of Mozart Melody (#31 for band, #43 for orchestra) to match the words of the ABC song or Baa, Baa Black Sheep.</p>
<p>Change of Scenery Take your instrument and music to a different space. Play three songs - does it feel different to play in a new space? How?</p>	<p>Something Fun! Teach a friend or family member something fun or interesting about your instrument.</p>	<p>Instrument History Read the history of your instrument that is printed in the yellow box on the first page of your Essential Elements book.</p>	<p>Question time! What one or two questions do you have about your instrument, or playing your instrument, that you want to ask your teacher?</p>

Instrument Care and Cleaning Tips

**If you have questions about cleaning, or your instrument isn't working properly when you're done, please reach out to your teacher for help.*

Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass: Wipe the instrument with the polishing cloth that is provided. Do not use alcohol or a sanitizing wipe - this can damage the finish to the instrument! If you want to sanitize the instrument, please reach out to your teacher for specific instructions and help.

Flute: Swab the inside of each piece with your cleaning rod and cleaning cloth. Carefully wipe any residue off of the joints between the pieces so they go together smoothly. Polish the fingerprints off of the metal with your polishing cloth.

Clarinet: Rinse off all of the reeds you have used with water. Swab each section of your instrument with your pull through swab. Put cork grease on all of your corks. Do not use water on any part of your instrument other than your reeds.

Saxophone: Rinse off all of the reeds you have used with water. Wash your mouthpiece with soap and warm (not hot) water. Swab the large section of your instrument with your pull-through swab. Put cork grease on your cork. Polish the fingerprints off of your instrument with a soft cloth. Do not use any water on the neck or body of your instrument.

French Horn: Wash your mouthpiece with soap and water. Use your mouthpiece brush, a Q-Tip, or pipe cleaner to clean the inside of your mouthpiece. Empty all of the spit from your slides. Oil your valves if they are not moving smoothly. Use a small amount of slide grease on any slides that do not move smoothly.

Trumpet: Wash your mouthpiece with soap and water. Use your mouthpiece brush, a Q-Tip, or pipe cleaner to clean the inside of your mouthpiece. Empty all of the spit from your spit valve. Oil your valves if they are not moving smoothly. Remember to click them back into place before you play. Use a small amount of slide grease on any slides that do not move smoothly.

Trombone: Wash your mouthpiece with soap and water. Use your mouthpiece brush, a Q-Tip, or pipe cleaner to clean the inside of your mouthpiece. Empty all of the spit from your spit valve. Wipe off your slide with a clean rag, add Trombotine to each side of the slide, and spray the slide with your spray bottle.

Baritone/Tuba: Wash your mouthpiece with soap and water. Use your mouthpiece brush, a Q-Tip, or pipe cleaner to clean the inside of your mouthpiece. Empty all of the spit from your spit valve. Oil your valves if they are not moving smoothly. Remember to line up the valve guide before you put your valves back in place. Use a small amount of slide grease on any slides that do not move smoothly.

Percussion: Dust off each piece of your instrument. Wipe down your mallets and drumsticks with a sanitizing wipe.

All Instruments: Wash the cleaning/polishing cloth in the regular wash, no fabric softener. This includes swabs that pull through instruments. Hang to dry.