Capistrano Unified School District

4th Grade
Beginning Strings
-Violin-

With input and materials from: Kerry Arakawa, Scott Arakawa, Steve Benefield, Michelle Brunton, Penni Buff, Chad Cunningham, Lisa Gray, Andrea Howard, Ann Ludwig, Barbara Scholl, Rob Stirling, Maryann Tucker, and Kory Wentzel.

Name:_________________       School:___________________

Classroom Teacher:_________________________
Parts of the Violin

Taking Care of Your Violin

Handle With Care! Your instrument is made of breakable wooden parts, so repairs can be expensive and time consuming.

Do not let anyone play your instrument unless it is your teacher or an experienced player you trust.

Never push down the case lid to make it close all the way. Before closing and latching it, check for things that may be out of place inside. (Be sure, for example, to remove your shoulder pad before putting your instrument away)

Keep your instrument clean! After playing, wipe off the rosin dust, smudges, fingerprints, etc., with a soft clean cloth. Always wash your hands before playing your instrument.

Do not let your instrument get too hot or too cold. If the temperature is uncomfortable for you, it is also bad for your instrument. For example, never leave your instrument in a car on a hot or cold day.

Allow only an experienced repair person to fix your instrument.

Make sure your bridge is lined up correctly and standing straight at all times. If it gets out of place, ask your teacher to fix it for you.
Lesson One: Getting Started

Holding your Violin

1. Make sure your shoulder rest is placed on your violin correctly

2. Stand or sit “tall” keeping your head facing forward

3. Holding the violin parallel to the floor by the right upper shoulder and guiding it with your right hand, bring it toward you at an angle to your left

4. As you bring the violin toward you, place the end button close to your throat. Turn your head slightly to the left and tuck the edge (the bump) of your chin rest under your jaw to the left of your chin.

5. If your position is correct, you should feel relaxed and comfortable—able to easily move your head up and down and side to side. Your shoulder rest should allow you to hold your violin with no help from your hands.

Pizzicato Position

1. Place the tip of your right thumb on the side of the fingerboard (near the corner)

2. Extend your first finger and pluck the string about 2-3 inches over the end of the fingerboard.

3. Keep your thumb anchored on the side of the fingerboard

4. For the best sound, make the string vibrate as much as possible.
The Violin has four open strings. They are named from lowest to highest, left to right, and thick to thin. This sentence will help you remember which order they are in: Good Dogs Always Eat.

Let’s Review how to hold the violin in playing position.
1. Stand or sit tall.
2. Instrument rests on left collar bone and shoulder
3. Jaw drops comfortably onto the chinrest (heavy head)
4. Left hand rests on the shoulder of the violin
5. Place left elbow directly beneath wrist/shoulder line

1. Rock House
   \[D \ D \ D \ D \quad D \ D \ D \ D \quad D \ D \ D \ D \quad D \ D \ D \ D\]

2 Rock Hound
   \[A \ A \ A \ A \quad A \ A \ A \ A \quad A \ A \ A \ A \quad A \ A \ A \ A\]

3. Rock Tango
   \[D \ D \ A \ A \quad D \ D \ A \ A \quad A \ A \ D \ D \quad A \ A \ D \ D\]

4. The Twist
   \[G \ G \ D \ D \quad G \ G \ D \ D \quad A \ A \ D \ D \quad G \ G \ G \ G\]

5. Lazy Afternoon
   \[G \ G \ D \ D \quad A \ A \ D \ D \quad G \ G \ D \ D \quad A \ A \ G \ G\]

6. Skip to My Lou
   \[D \ D \ D \ D \quad A \ A \ A \ A \quad D \ D \ D \ D \quad A \ A \ D \ D\]
7. Mary Had a Little Lamb

\[ \text{D D D D} \quad \text{D D D D} \quad \text{A A A A} \quad \text{D D D D} \]

\[ \text{D D D D} \quad \text{D D D D} \quad \text{A A A A} \quad \text{D - D -} \]

8. Cycle of Strings

\[ \text{E E E E} \quad \text{A A A A} \quad \text{D D D D} \quad \text{G G G G} \quad \text{♩ = Quarter Rest (one beat of silence)} \]

\[ \text{♩ ♩ ♩ ♩} \quad \text{D D D D} \quad \text{A A A A} \quad \text{E E E E} \]

*Pencil Fun- Do You Remember the Parts of the Violin?*

1. ______________
2. ______________
3. ______________
4. ______________
5. ______________
6. ______________
7. ______________
8. ______________
9. ______________
10. ______________
11. ______________
12. ______________
13. ______________
14. ______________
Lesson Two: Reading Music (Open Strings)

Music Symbols

= Treble Clef
= Time Signature
| = Bar Line (divides the music into sections called “measures”)
| = Double Bar (the end of the song)
= Quarter Rest (one beat of silence)
= Half Rest (two beats of silence)

= Whole Note (receives four beats)
= Half Note (receives two beats)
= Quarter Note (receives one beat)

9. Teeter Totter

10. Bullfrog

11. Kangaroo

12. Skip to My Lou
Lesson Three: More Open Strings

13. Mary Had a Little Lamb

14. Cycle of Strings

15. Open String Blues
Parts of the bow

Steps to a good bowgrip.....

1. Middle fingers curve over the bow stick
2. Thumb touches where frog meets the stick
3. Check for bow hand circle
4. Wrap your first finger around the stick.
5. Little finger (pinkie) sits on top of the stick

At first, play in this area of your bow

a. Place your bow on the D string, halfway between the bridge and the fingerboard.
b. Angle the bow so it is parallel with the bridge (your wrist should be bent upwards.)
c. Pull the bow so it remains parallel to the bridge until you reach the tip. (You should need to bend your wrist the other way.)
d. Move the bow and your wrist in the opposite direction
**The bow alternates back and forth unless marking is placed. Orchestra bows should all move together in the same direction.**

16. **Bowing on “D”**

```
\(\frac{4}{4}\)
```

17. **Bowing on “A”** - Tilt the bow to the A String

```
\(\frac{4}{4}\)
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18. **Alternate “DNA”** - Tilt the bow from the D String to the A String

Changing Strings: Your elbow is responsible for changing strings.
Bowing on Open Strings Review

19. “D” Smooth One
\(\text{\textbf{4\text{\textfrac{1}{4}}}}}\)

20. Smooth “A”
\(\text{\textbf{4\text{\textfrac{1}{4}}}}}\)

21. D N A
\(\text{\textbf{4\text{\textfrac{1}{4}}}}}\)

22. Teeter Totter
\(\text{\textbf{4\text{\textfrac{1}{4}}}}}\)

23. Cycle of Strings Encore
\(\text{\textbf{4\text{\textfrac{1}{4}}}}}\)
(Viola and Cello Solo)
(Violin Solo)
Lesson Five: “E” on the D String

To play “E” on the D string, press the tip of your first finger down securely on the first stripe on the D string.

24. A Bumpy Road

25. Smooth Sailin’

26. Back and Forth

27. Two Note Jive
Lesson Six: F# on the D String

To play F-Sharp, press the tip of your second finger on the second stripe on the D string.

Reminder: Keep your first finger on the first stripe.

28. Three Note Hill

29. Up and Down

30. Fast and Slow

31. Hot Cross Buns

= half rest (2 beats of silence)

= whole note (receives 4 beats)
32. Mary Had a Little Lamb

=Eighth notes
Each eighth note receives 1/2 of a count
Two eighth notes beamed together = 1 count

33. Mary Doubles
' = Bow Lift
(lift the bow off the string and reset it at the frog)

34. Claire de Lune

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{D} & \quad \text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \\
\text{D} & \quad \text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \\
\text{D} & \quad \text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D}
\end{align*}
\]

35. Lune de Claire

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{F} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \\
\text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{F} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \\
\text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{F} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D}
\end{align*}
\]

36. The Reapers

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{F} \quad \text{E} \\
\text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{F} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{D}
\end{align*}
\]
Lesson 7: New Note “G”

To play G, press the tip of your third finger on the third stripe.
Keep your first two fingers down on the first two stripes on the D String.
KEEP ALL FINGERS DOWN

37. Going Up the D String

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\(\frac{4}{4}\)} & \\
D & D & D & D & E & E & E & E & \#F & \#F & \#F & \#F & G & G & G & G \\
\end{align*}
\]

38. Going Down the D String

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\(\frac{4}{4}\)} & \\
G & G & G & G & \#F & \#F & \#F & \#F & E & E & E & E & D & D & D & D \\
\end{align*}
\]

39. Pizzicato March

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\(\frac{4}{4}\)} & \\
G & \#F & F & D & G & \#F & E & D & G & \#F & E & D & G & D & E & \#F \\
pizz. & \\
G & \#F & E & D & G & \#F & E & D & G & \#F & E & D & G & D & G & E \\
\end{align*}
\]

40. Bile Them Cabbage Down

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\(\frac{2}{4}\)} & \\
\#F & \#F & F & F & G & G & \#F & \#F & F & F & E & E & \text{||} & \text{=} \text{ repeat sign} & \\
\text{\(\frac{4}{4}\)} & \\
\#F & \#F & F & F & G & G & \#F & \#F & F & F & E & E & \text{||} & \text{=} \text{ repeat sign} & \\
\text{\(\frac{4}{4}\)} & \\
\#F & \#F & F & F & G & G & \#F & \#F & F & F & E & E & \text{||} & \text{=} \text{ repeat sign} & \\
\text{\(\frac{4}{4}\)} & \\
\#F & \#F & F & F & G & G & \#F & \#F & F & F & E & E & \text{||} & \text{=} \text{ repeat sign} & \\
\end{align*}
\]

go back to beginning and play again
41. Jingle Bells

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{E} & \quad \text{open D string} \\
\text{F#} & \quad 3 \text{ on the D string} \\
\text{A} & \quad 1 \text{ on the D string} \\
\text{D} & \quad \text{open A string} \\
\text{G} & \quad 2 \text{ on D string}
\end{align*}
\]
Lesson 8: New Note “B”

B is played with one finger on the first stripe on the A String

43. New Note B

44. The Tortoise and the Hare

45. Crossing Over
46. Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

47. Twinkle (Variation)
Lesson 9: C# on the A String

To play C-Sharp, press the tip of your second finger on the second stripe on the A string.
Reminder: Keep your first finger down on the first stripe.

48. Up and Down the Hill

49. Hot Cross Buns on the A String

50. Mary Had a Little Lamb on the A String
51. Mary Double on the A String

52. Claire de Lune on the A String

Repeat Sign

Go back to the beginning and play again
Lesson 10: High D on the A String

To play High D, press the tip of your third finger on the third stripe on the A string.

**Reminder: Keep your first two fingers down on the first two stripes.

53. Up the A string

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\textbf{\textit{\(\frac{4}{4}\)}}} \\
\text{\textbf{\textit{\text{A A A A B B B B \#C C C C D D D D}}}}
\end{align*}
\]

54. Climbing the D Scale

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\textbf{\textit{\(\frac{4}{4}\)}}} \\
\text{\textbf{\textit{\text{D D D D E E E E \#F F F F G G G G}}}}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\textbf{\textit{\(\frac{4}{4}\)}}} \\
\text{\textbf{\textit{\text{A A A A B B B B \#C C C C D D D D}}}}
\end{align*}
\]

55. Descending

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\textbf{\textit{\(\frac{4}{4}\)}}} \\
\text{\textbf{\textit{\text{D D D D \#C C C C G G G G B B B B A A A A}}}}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\textbf{\textit{\(\frac{4}{4}\)}}} \\
\text{\textbf{\textit{\text{G G G G \#F F F F E E E E D D D D}}}}
\end{align*}
\]
56. French Folk Song

57. Note Review- Write the note names for all the notes you have learned so far
High E: play your open E String

58. Tuneful Tune

59. Ode to Joy
Honor 4<sup>th</sup> Grade String Songs

60. Mary on the A String

61. Mary Doubles- (1<sup>st</sup> Variation)

62. Twinkle Twinkle, Little Star
63. Twinkle Variation

64. French Folk Song
65. Ode to Joy

66. Tuneful Tune
Some Basic Rhythmic Fundamentals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note Values</th>
<th>Rest Values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quarter Note</td>
<td>Quarter Rest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Note</td>
<td>Half Rest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dotted Half Note</td>
<td>Whole Rest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole Note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Quarter Note $\bullet$ = one beat
- Half Note $\cdot$ = two beats
- Dotted Half Note $\cdot \cdot$ = three beats
- Whole Note $\circ$ = four beats
- Quarter Rest $\circ$ = one beat
- Half Rest $\cdot$ = two beats
- Whole Rest $\cdot \cdot \cdot$ = four beats

67. Quiz

1. A $\circ$ receives ____________ beats.
2. A $\circ$ receives ____________ beats.
3. A $\cdot$ receives ____________ beats.
4. A $\cdot \cdot$ receives ____________ beats.
5. A $\cdot \cdot \cdot$ receives ____________ beats.
6. A $\cdot$ receives ____________ beats.
7. A $\cdot \cdot \cdot$ receives ____________ beats.

Directions: Match each note to the number of beats it gets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\bullet$</td>
<td>$\cdot$</td>
<td>$\cdot \cdot$</td>
<td>$\cdot \cdot \cdot$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
String Instrument Word Search

The word search includes terms such as:
- alto clef
- bow lift
- down bow
- half rest
- quarter note
- sharp
- treble clef
- whole rest
- arco
- bridge
- end button
- measure
- quarter rest
- shoulder pad
- tuning pegs
- barline
- cello
- fine tuners
- melody
- repeat sign
- sound holes
- up bow
- bass clef
- chin rest
- fingerboard
- neck
- rhythm
- tailpiece
- viola
- bow
- double bar
- frog
- notes
- rosin
- tempo
- violin
- bow grip
- down bar
- half note
- pizzicato
- scroll
- time signature
- whole note
Reading Music

Staff

Treble Clef

Time Signature

A music staff has five lines and four spaces.

The treble clef is located at the beginning of every staff and tells us this music is for violin and other high pitched instruments.

The top number tells us how many beats are in each measure. The bottom number tells us which kind of note receives one beat.

Rhythm Chart

Whole note = 4 beats

Half note = 2 beats

Quarter note = 1 beat

Eighth note = ½ beat

4 Steps to Success

1. Count and clap the rhythms.
2. Clap and sing the note names.
3. Sing note names and shadow bow.
4. Play.

Note Name and Fingering Reference Chart

D E F# G A B C# D
There are four counts in each measure. Write each count in the correct space. Start each measure with count one. Don’t forget that half notes receive two counts and whole notes receive four counts!
F# on the D String

F# is located on the first space.
E is located on the first line.
Open D is located below the staff.

72. New Note F#

73. Let’s Read F#

74. Climbing Up

75. Black and White

76. Resting

77. Walking Song
F# Tunes

78. The Reapers

79. Skip-A-Long

80. Claire de Lune

81. Lune de Claire

Bow Lift
Lift bow off of the string
and reset at the frog.
More F# Tunes

82. Write the note names on the lines below.

83. Name That Tune _________________________________

84. Name That Tune _________________________________

85. Peter’s Hammer _________________________________
86. Three Plus G

87. Going Up and Down

88. Go, Go, Go

89. Grasshoppers

90. Norwegian Folk Song

91. Pizzicato March

G is located on the second line.
F# is located on the first space.
E is located on the first line.
Open D is located below the staff.
G Tunes

KEY SIGNATURE

In this key signature you will play all F’s as F#’s and all C’s as C#’s. The key signature is always located at the beginning of each line. You will notice that there are no longer any sharps located in the songs.

92. Cockroaches

93. Speed Bump

(Lift)

94. Clown Dance (Play 3 Times)

95. Write the correct note letter name under each note

1._____ 2._____ 3._____
4._____ 5._____ 6._____ 7._____

96. Draw four E quarter notes   2. Draw four F# quarter notes   3. Draw two G half notes
97. More DNA

98. Crossing Over

99. Climbing to A

100. Merry Dance

A is located on the second space.
G is located on the second line.
F# is located on the first space.
E is located on the first line.
Open D is located below the staff.
B on the A String

104. A to B

105. Apples and Bananas

106. Old MacDonald

B is located on the third line.

Open A is located on the second space.

Each eighth note is half of a beat. Two eighth notes equal one beat.

Ex:

4. Count and Clap

107. Baa Baa Black Sheep

38
C# on the A String

108. My A-B-C-‘s

109. Apples, Bananas, and Cherries

110. Merry Go Round

111. Go Tell Aunt Rhodie

112. Name That Tune

C# is located on the third space.
B is located on the third line.
Open A is located on the second space.
113. Reaching for High D

114. Donkey Song

115. Rockin’ on the A String

116. D Major Scale and Arpeggio
D Tunes

117. School March

118. Bohemian Folk Song

119. Scotland’s Burning
Each group of notes spells a word. Use the words to fill in the blanks in the following story. The number “1” group spells the word for the number “1” blank, the number “2” group spells the word for the number “2” blank, and so on.

___________(1) and her mom and _________(2) were moving into a new home at the ___________(3) of town. It was their last night in the old house. Everything was moved out except a ____________(4), some ____________ (5), and a sleeping ________(6). __________(7) said, “It sure is __________(8) around here.” She_________(9) to have a party that last night, but __________(10) said it was a ____________ (11) time to have friends over, and, too it was late.

Mom __________(12) that there was no way she could ____________(13) anyone, so a party was out. Just then the door flew open. There were Ruthie, __________(14) and __________(15) standing in the doorway, yelling “Surprise!”

Each carried a _____________(16) filled with goodies. They also brought paper plates and cups. There was even a jug of lemon ___________(17). What started out as a dull evening turned out to be a fun time for all.
Glossary of Terms

Accidentals ($\sharp, \natural, \flat$): sharp, natural, and flat symbols for altering pitch.

Arco: to play using the bow.

Arpeggio: notes of a chord played separately.

Beat: the pulse of the music.

Bow lanes: point of contact of the bow, near the bridge or near the fingerboard.

Bow lift: lift the bow from the string and return to the frog in a circular motion.

Clef sign: located at the beginning of each line of music, the clef sign defines the letter names for the lines and spaces on the staff for your instrument.

Col legno: or more precisely col legno battuto (Italian for "hit with the wood"), is an instruction to strike the string with the stick of the bow.

Down bow: moving bow toward tip; pull.

Duet: music in two parts.

Fermata: symbol indicating to hold a note longer.

Key signature: identifies notes that are raised or lowered.

Ledger lines: extend the staff with small lines written above or below.

Legato: play with smooth bow strokes.

Measure: the space between barlines.

Octave: a pitch that is eight notes higher or lower and both pitches have the same letter name.

Pizzicato (pizz.): pluck the string with the index finger of the right hand.

Repeat sign: go back and play a section of music again.

Scale: a set of eight notes in ascending or descending order that begins and ends on the same letter.

Spiccato: bowing technique for string instruments in which the bow bounces lightly upon the string.

Staccato: stopped bow stroke.

Staff: 5 lines and 4 spaces, used for writing music.

Time signature: indicates how many beats are in a measure (top number) and what kind of note gets one beat (bottom number).

Tremolo: shake the bow back and forth rapidly as if trembling.

Up bow: moving bow toward frog; push.

Note Name and Fingering Reference Chart

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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>F#</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C#</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

43
Glossary Crossword Puzzle

Please complete the crossword puzzle below using the terms and definitions from the glossary.

Across:
1. 5 lines and 4 spaces, used for writing music
4. play with smooth bow strokes
5. identifies notes that are raised or lowered (2 words)
6. extend the staff with small lines written above or below (2 words)
7. lift the bow from the string and return to the frog in a circular motion (2 words)
11. shake the bow back and forth rapidly as if trembling
14. a set of eight notes in ascending or descending order that begins and ends on the same letter
17. symbol indicating to hold a note longer
18. pluck the string with the index finger of the right hand
19. notes of a chord played separately
20. stopped bow stroke
21. moving the bow toward frog; push (2 words)
22. indicates how many beats are in a measure (top number) and what kind of note receives one beat (bottom number) (2 words)

Down:
2. located at the beginning of each line of music, this symbol defines the letter names for the lines and spaces on the staff for your instrument (2 words)
3. the pulse of the music
8. go back and play a section of music again (2 words)
9. points of contact of the bow, near the bridge or near the fingerboard (2 words)
10. music in two parts
12. the space between barlines
13. a pitch that is eight notes higher or lower and both pitches have the same letter name
15. bowing technique for string instruments in which the bow bounces lightly upon the string.
16. sharp, natural, and flat symbols for altering pitch
19. to play using the bow
23. moving bow toward tip; pull (2 words)
24. an instruction to strike the string with the stick of the bow (2 words)
Cut out and use to practice your note names.

Flashcards for the D String Notes
Cut out and use to practice your note names.

Flashcards for the A String Notes.

- \( \text{\#} \)
- \( \text{\#} \)
- \( \text{\#} \)
- \( \text{\#} \)