

**North Carolina Essential Standards
Eighth Grade Music**

Note on Numbering/Strands:

ML – Musical Literacy, **MR** – Musical Response, **CR** – Contextual Relevancy

Musical Literacy

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
8.ML.1	Apply the elements of music and musical techniques in order to sing and play music with accuracy and expression.	8.ML.1.1	Use characteristic tone and consistent pitch when performing music alone and collaboratively, in small and large ensembles, using a variety of music.
		8.ML.1.2	Integrate the fundamental techniques (such as posture, playing position, breath control, fingerings, and bow/stick control) necessary to sing and/or play an instrument.
		8.ML.1.3	Interpret expressive elements, including dynamics, timbre, blending, accents, attacks, releases, phrasing, and interpretation, while singing and/or playing a varied repertoire of music with technical accuracy.
8.ML.2	Interpret the sound and symbol systems of music.	8.ML.2.1	Interpret standard musical notation for whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, and dotted note and rest durations in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8, 3/8, and alla breve meter signatures.
		8.ML.2.2	Interpret, through instrument and/or voice, standard notation symbols in two different clefs, using extended staves.
		8.ML.2.3	Use standard symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, articulation, and expression to notate musical ideas.
8.ML.3	Create music using a variety of sound and notational sources.	8.ML.3.1	Produce simple rhythmic and melodic improvisations on pentatonic or blues scales, pentatonic melodies, and/or melodies in major keys.
		8.ML.3.2	Construct short pieces within specified guidelines (e.g., a particular style, form, instrumentation, compositional technique), using a variety of traditional and non-traditional sound, notational, and 21st century technological sources.

Musical Response

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
8.MR.1	Understand the interacting elements to respond to music and music performances.	8.MR.1.1	Interpret the gestures of a conductor when singing or playing an instrument
		8.MR.1.2	Identify principles of meter, rhythm, tonality, intervals, chords, and harmonic progressions using appropriate music terminology in analyses of music.

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
		8.MR.1.3	Evaluate performances, compositions, and musical ideas using a specified set of criteria (such as tone quality, intonation, blend/ balance, technique, musical effect, interpretation, and diction).

Contextual Relevancy

	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
8.CR.1	Understand global, interdisciplinary, and 21st century connections with music.	8.CR.1.1	Understand the role of music in North Carolina and the United States in relation to history and geography.
		8.CR.1.2	Understand the relationships between music and concepts from other areas.
		8.CR.1.3	Understand laws regarding the proper access, use, and protection of music.