



*“We’ve Opened the Cases...
Now What?”*

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Cheryl Floyd*

Sponsor: Texas Bandmasters Association

*Texas Bandmasters Association
60th Annual Convention/Clinic*

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*Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
San Antonio, Texas*

“We’ve opened our cases...so now what?”

Texas Bandmasters Association
July 20, 2007
1:30 pm

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Before the First Day

- First general information meeting.
- Instrument Interview day
- Make-up instrument interviews
- Instrument delivery to school.
 - Beginners should not have an instrument at home until a minimum of one month of class instruction has taken place.
- Beginners should not take private lessons during the summer.

The First Day

- Crosscheck roll against student list from instrument interviews. Make certain that the right kids are in the right class with the right instrument.
- Hand out index cards. Have students print name address, phone numbers, etc. on the front.
- Handout instruments.
- SIT ON THE FLOOR!!!
- One by one, teacher opens each student’s case and records the serial number on an index card.
- Name tags
- Assign each student an instrument cubby in the instrument room.
- Record instrument cubby on index card.
- Store instrument in cubby at end of class.

The First Week

- No music stands in front of students.
- Breathing exercise w/ metronome.
- Foot pat practice.
- Clapping game, call and response
- Lines and Spaces chant
- Bandanas

- Headjoint, reed, mouthpiece combo, mouthpiece call and response
 - Whole note
 - 4 Quarter notes in a row
 - Trickier patterns, including dotted quarter note/eighth note patterns
 - During this time, work to set characteristic embouchure
- SIT ON FLOOR!!! Proper instrument assembly/disassembly.
- Proper instrument care techniques.
- Introduce first 3 notes
 - Flute, oboe A-G-F
 - Clarinet E-D-C
 - Saxophone B-A-G
 - Bassoon E-D-C
 - Trumpet E-D-C
 - Horn E-D-C
 - Trombone/Baritone D-C-Bb

The First Month

- Repeat all of the above
 - Remember...NO MUSIC STANDS IN FRONT OF STUDENTS!
 - SIT ON THE FLOOR.
- Introduce the following “songs” by rote. We do not read any printed music the first month or so.
 - Hot Cross Buns
 - Merrily We Roll Along
 - Mary Had a Little Lamb
 - Lightly Row
 - Louie, Louie bass line
 - Shark Song
 - Oats, Peas, Beans
- Introduce 5 note scales
- All instruments will know one entire scale by the end of the first month.
 - Saxophones learn Bb concert scale of thirds by rote.
- Additional games
 - Flutes
 - Run the G
 - Ghosting
 - Partner notes
 - Clarinets
 - Doodlette
 - Doodles
 - Check Mouthpiece combo EVERYDAY with tuner for F# concert!!!
- All students will be able to play 4-6 melodies by rote before taking the instrument home for the first time.
 - First night procedures hand out.

First weekend practice assignment

Set your metronome at a quarter note = 92.

You will need your mom or dad to listen to you play tonight and circle yes/no on the following items;

YES NO My metronome is set at a quarter note = 92.

YES NO I pat my foot when I play...show me the rhythm!!!

YES NO I can play my headjoint, reed, mouthpiece combo, or mouthpiece for 8 counts.

YES NO I can play my headjoint, reed, mouthpiece combo, or mouthpiece for 10 counts.

YES NO I can play my headjoint, reed, mouthpiece combo, or mouthpiece for 12 counts.

YES NO I can play 4 quarter notes on my headjoint, reed, mouthpiece combo, or mouthpiece in one breath.

YES NO I can play C D Eb E F G A Bb for
8 counts.

(Circle the notes that you played tonight)

YES NO I can play "Hot Cross Buns".

YES NO I can play "Merrily We Roll Along".

YES NO I can play my "5 Note Scale".

Return to class on Monday!!!

Parent signature _____

Student signature _____

Feel free to write any additional songs that you played tonight below: