

Visual and Performing Arts
Performing Arts: Wind Ensemble
Unit 1: Advanced Breathing for Wind Players

Essential Understandings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Instrumental music requires basic breathing skills and proper techniques.
Essential Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is proper playing posture? ▪ How does strong diaphragm breathing improve phrasing and pitch? ▪ What is vibrato?
Essential Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wind tone production begins with good posture. ▪ Use of the diaphragm muscle is needed for proper air pressure. ▪ Use of firm air pressure is important at all volumes.
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Terms:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ posture, tone production, “hissing” air, diaphragm
Essential Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrate proper wind player posture and instrument position. ▪ Maintain even air flow at most dynamic levels. ▪ Hold long tones with an even tone.
Related Maine Learning Results	<p><u>Music</u></p> <p>A. Creative Expression</p> <p>A1.Music Difficulty Students perform music that requires well developed technical skills, attention to phrasing and interpretation, and the ability to perform various meters and rhythms in a variety of keys while modeling proper posture and technique alone or with others.</p> <p>A2.Notation and Terminology Students apply accumulated knowledge of musical notation, symbols, and terminology to perform music with greater complexity and variation including sudden dynamic contrasts.</p> <p>A3.Listening and Describing Students listen to, analyze and evaluate music using their understanding of pitch, rhythm, tempo, dynamics, form, timbre, texture, harmony, style and compound meter.</p> <p>E. Visual and Performing Arts Connections</p> <p>E3.Goal Setting Students make short-term and long-term goals based on rigorous criteria and related to time management, interpersonal interactions, or skill development that will lead to success in the arts.</p>
Sample Lessons And Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use videos on “wind tone production”. ▪ Demonstrate the effects of improper vs. proper breath support/control.

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Sample Classroom Assessment Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Advanced “Long tone” playing quiz▪ Advanced pitch control using electronic tuner for visualization
Sample Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>Videos:</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ SmartMusic computer system videos