

# MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORUS

*distance learning*

## LESSON IDEAS



An ongoing and evolving resource of ideas and activities for your students

By Danielle Larrick

# Choir Olympics

## THE BASICS

- There will be a folder for each day posted in our LMS
- Folders will include a video, instructions, and any other necessary information AS WELL AS an event for to complete.
- Events will fall into the following categories
  - *Musical Monday*
  - *Technique Tuesday*
  - *Workout Wednesday*
  - *Theory Thursday*
  - *Fun Friday*
- Singers “rank up” by completing events
- Singers can earn an extra rank by winning or completing daily challenges!
- In my case, students can complete these events at their own pace
- Ranks will be tallied at the end of each week
- Events & Challenges will be tracked using a Google Sheet. Here is a [Sample Sheet](#) that you may copy and customize as needed.

# *week 1* **FOCUS**

Engage  
Enrich  
Review



# week 1

	Preparation	Event & Challenge
Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Teacher recorded video on FlipGrid</li><li>● Check-in with students and share current favorite singer/band/musical</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Singers share their responses via FlipGrid</li><li>● <u>CHALLENGE</u>: Singers send link to a favorite performance of singer/band</li></ul>
Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Singers watch <u>Roger Emerson PASTA video</u></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Singers use FlipGrid to explain PASTA or Demonstrate using their favorite song OR</li><li>● Create a digital poster explaining PASTA using Canva, Google Slides, etc.</li></ul>

# week 1 continued

	Preparation	Event & Challenge
Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Singers watch <u>model lung video</u></li><li>• Singers watch <u>Rainbow Breath Video</u></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• After watching the "Model Lung" video, answer the questions below.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Describe what happens when you inhale (when you pull down on the bottom balloon in your model).</li><li>- Describe what happens when you exhale (when you push up on the bottom balloon in your model).</li><li>- Why do you think some people can inhale more air at one time than others can?</li></ul></li><li>• <u>CHALLENGE</u>: Create the project and share a picture of you with your model</li><li>• Now that they are reminded HOW breathing works, I ask them to grab someone in their household and take a moment to try this! Singers aren't the only ones who can benefit from stopping to breathe! After they've completed this activity, they describe how they felt BEFORE and AFTER!</li></ul>

# week 1 continued

	Preparation	Event & Challenge
Day 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Singers sign-up for a free account at <a href="#">Sight-Reading Factory</a> (Offering free licenses right now)</li><li>• Singers watch the tutorial I posted of myself demonstrating the website</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Singers complete a sample sight-reading that I set up; Very simple and straightforward to start</li><li>• After students try Sight-Reading Factory, they share what questions they might have? How did it go? What did they find easy? What was challenging?</li></ul>
Day 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Singers review choir meme directions. Access <a href="#">sample directions here</a>. Make a copy and customize to your needs.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Singers each design one meme. Top 3 earn an extra rank.</li></ul>

# *week 2*

## FOCUS



# meet the author

Danielle E. Larrick is a musician-educator in her 13th year of teaching who believes in the value of middle school music as a means of identity, expression, and connection. She focuses on designing practical, innovative, and engaging music curricula for middle school students. Danielle received a Bachelor of Music in Music Education, with a concentration in Voice, from Temple University. In 2016, she earned a Master of Music in Music Education from The University of the Arts. She currently teaches at Gerald Huesken Middle School, where she directs the 7th and 8th grade choirs and teaches general music courses. She recently published an e-book “Middle School General Music: A Guide to Navigating the Unknown” which can be purchased, along with other resources, at <https://www.flat-books.com/>.



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