



# The Instruments of Band

MVUSD


Music Connections /  
Recorders

Dr. Garvin




# Don't worry, you are ready!

Sometimes, students  
are worried about  
doing new things.



From our choirs, recorder  
class, even piano or other  
music lessons, you are  
ready for a great  
adventure.



First, let's learn some  
facts about instruments in  
band!

# The Instruments of 5th Grade Band

- There are three main instrument "families" in the band. They are called:
  - Woodwinds
  - Brass
  - Percussion (Limited)



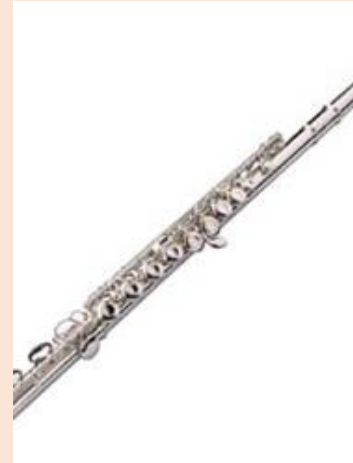


# The Woodwind Family



- In **5th Grade**, the Woodwind family is made up of **Flute**, **Clarinet**, **Bass Clarinet (Limited)** and the **Saxophones**.
- Later in upper grades with training, you can ask to train on an **Oboe**, or even a **Bassoon** (Double Reeds).

# Flute



- The flute is one of the highest sounding woodwind instruments.
- The flute is held level with the floor, unlike most other instruments that are held like the recorder.
- To produce sound, covered keys are pressed down by the players fingers.
- Even air is used across the top opening, at the mouthpiece.

# Clarinet



- The clarinet is played by covering the holes and pressing the keys.
- A single reed, which is attached on the mouthpiece, is used to produce sound.
- It is held like a recorder. (Left hand on top)
- 4 "back up" reeds are kept ready for use in the players instrument case.

•

## Alto Saxophone



- A saxophone is like a clarinet, because it plays with a single reed on its' mouthpiece. Back up reeds are also kept ready.
- There are three types. They are *Alto*, *Tenor*, and *Baritone* Saxophones.
- Talk to your teacher on which instrument and reeds are best!

# The Brass Family

- The Brass family is made up of Trumpets, French Horns, Trombones, Baritone, and Tuba.
- ***Treble Clef*** (High Sounds) Brass = Trumpets, French Horns, and Baritone.
- ***Bass Clef*** (Low Sounds) Brass = Trombones, Baritone and Tuba.





# Trumpet (Treble Clef)

- The highest sounding instrument in the brass family is the trumpet.
- Smooth air and proper "ways" of playing are needed to sound good.
- Left Hand holds the instrument, right hand plays the valves (buttons on top). Those are the BAG – notes.





# French Horn (Treble Clef)

- This instrument plays many different high/middle sounds.
- It is considered an advancing instrument.
- While playing, the left hand presses the valves, and the right hand is placed inside the bell to help control its' best sound.

# Trombone (Bass Clef)

- The trombone is unlike the other members of the brass family because there are no valves to push down.
- Different notes are played by putting the slide into different positions. (#1 –7)
- Special sounds can also be created that are called for in music that only this instrument is able to do.
- **Left Hand** holds the instrument, **Right Hand** moves the slide!



# Baritone / Tuba (Bass Clef)

- The Tuba is one of the lowest sounding instruments.
- It comes in smaller sizes to start. (Baritone - Tuba)
- Valves are pushed down by the player to produce different notes. (Right Hand)
- As players advance, they get the larger instruments.



# The Percussion Family

- The percussion family consists of *instruments* that are played by striking with the hand or a mallet.
- The percussion section keeps the tempo and plays melody.
- Some typical 5th grade instruments are Bass Drum, Snare Drum, Xylophone/Bells, Cymbals, and more.



# Next Steps

---

## Contact

Contact by email or bar code your band teacher for questions!



## Ask

Ask about different instruments and how many more you can play!



## Learn

Learn about the fun performance trips and concerts that await you!

