

Observations from Day one 6-8 Band Cooperative Learning Activity

I started the activity yesterday January 10th. I gave the directions and created the groups. Groups sat for a little while thinking about what they might do and needing more information on what they were supposed to do. Then one dominate student started having ideas and needed to write down the process for the arrangement. Other students were chiming in ideas as she was writing on my erasable grand staff on the wall. There was some back and forth and soon the rough draft of their Twinkle, Twinkle, Little star arrangement unfolded. The rest of the class period was trying the new arrangement and making adjustments in who was playing at what time. I had to make a few comments because there were too many inaccuracies in playing which was making it hard to hear what they wanted to be playing. They continued to work and it cleaned up the playing a little. I also suggested a composing technique for the piece which help add a better structure to the piece. After class, I went to my Finale music program and created the arrangement that they were trying to do. I made an audio file and set it to the student to listen to. I will also play the piece in class on Wednesday.