

## Sharps and Flats-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Lesson

Materials: Quaver Music Online and Smartboard, Clarinet, Xylophone with Black Keys

Objective: Students will be able to show examples and know the sound of half steps. Students will be able to define sharps, flats, and naturals.

Core Music Standards:

MU:Pr4.2.5a Demonstrate understanding of the structure and the elements of music (such as rhythm, pitch, form, and harmony) in music selected for performance.

MU:Pr4.2.5b When analyzing selected music, read and perform using standard notation

### Lesson Plan

1. Review Step, Skips, and Leaps
  - a. “Who Can Describe a Step, Skip, or Leap?”
  - b. “Can I have a volunteer to play some steps, skips, and leaps on the xylophone?”- Have the student turn the xylophone around so the students can see. Point out how the steps are next to each other, the skips skip a note, and the leaps go over multiple notes.
2. “What is a Scale?”-point out how a scale includes on the solfege pitches. It is from do to high do.
3. Demonstrate a scale. I will use my clarinet to introduce new instruments. Have a student volunteer to play a scale on the xylophone.
4. Play a Normal Scale and then a Chromatic Scale on the clarinet
  - a. Ask what they heard that was different
  - b. Play examples of half-steps-compare with whole steps
  - c. Play ‘The Flight of the Bumblebee’ by Rimsky-Korsakov
5. Half Step Definition
  - a. “Does anyone know what it is called when we raise a note by a half-step?”-Sharp
  - b. “Where is the sharp symbol on our music carpet?”
  - c. “Does anyone know what it is called when we lower a note by a half-step?”-Flat
  - d. “Where is the flat symbol on our carpet?”

**Formative Assessment:** Have students come up and use the smartboard to draw arrows to indicate a half-step up or a half-step down. Ask if it is a sharp or a flat. Have students volunteer to play half steps on the xylophone.

6. Sharp Pump, Flat Pump Game: Starts on a note on the staff. You can use the sharp pump to raise it a half-step as much as you want or use the flat pump to lower it as much as you want. Guide the students by showing them how it works. Then ask what note it will end up on if you do a certain number of sharps or flats.
7. Review the sharp and flat symbol again with a definition
8. Learn what a natural sign in
  - a. **Formative Assessment:** Have volunteer come up and play a note on the xylophone, then sharp it, then natural it.
9. Play the Accidental Journey with the students
  - a. **Summative Assessment:** Game always starts on middle C. You have to listen to a recording a determine which note it ends up on with all half-steps in the motive

## 10. Watch Piano Video