

### MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS:

# What are INSTRUMENT FAMILIES?

**Age Range:** Elementary

Learning Objective: Students will learn the characteristics of the four primary instrument families.

#### **ENGAGE** students

MOVE. Play a game to notice similarities between students. Ask students to stand up based on a prompt. Prompts include: "Stand if you: are wearing the color red, have long hair,

have short hair, like basketball, like pizza, etc." Play several rounds.

SAY. "We have a lot of similarities, and there's also some differences! Today we're going to

talk about instruments that share similar features."

## **EXPLORE** sounds

EXPLAIN. "Instruments are placed in groups based on similarities of how they create sounds.

We call these groups families. We can group instruments into four families: strings,

woodwinds, brass, and percussion."

DEFINE. Sing *Instruments Belong in Four Families* to teach students the characteristics of

each family. Sing the song a few times. Add movement or actions to help students

retain the information. Download the score!

LEARN. Choose one instrument demonstration video from each family to show. Each video is

1-2 minutes long. While listening, students can color one of the included <u>Instrument</u> <u>Family Coloring Sheets</u>. Each features a few instruments from each family.

String	Brass	Woodwind	Percussion
<ul><li>Violin</li><li>Viola</li><li>Cello</li><li>Guitar</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Tenor</li></ul>	<ul><li>Bassoon</li><li>Oboe</li><li>Clarinet</li><li>Flute</li></ul>	<ul><li>Marimba</li><li>Hand Drums</li><li>Goat Hoof Shaker</li><li>Mbira</li><li>Tabla</li></ul>

PLAY. Play 4 Corners with students to practice identifying instrument families. Use our ready-to-go 4 Corners Visuals & Instructions to play.

# **EXTEND** learning

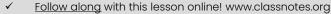
Choose one or more activities to extend learning.

WATCH. Continue learning with our <u>Virtual Concert: Instrument Families</u> lesson featuring

Class Notes Artists.

PLAY. Utilize resources from TeachersPayTeachers like Instrument Family Bingo or

<u>Instrument Scavenger Hunt</u> to reinforce learning.



Broken link? Need help adapting a lesson? Contact <u>Katie Condon</u>, education specialist



