

Home Practice Guide #5—Violas
(Due the week of June 1, 2015)

Dear parents,

As we move into our last couple of months of music classes, we want to update you on where your child's skill level should be in the strings class. By this time, students should be able to comfortably and confidently read the notes D, E, F#, and G. It is important that your child be comfortable with these 4 notes, as we will continue to add the remaining 4 notes (A, B, C#, and high D) between now and the end of April. By the beginning of May, we will be reading all 8 notes on the music staff. Placement of notes on the staff depends on which instrument your child plays (violin, viola, or cello).

If your child is struggling with the first four notes and has been practicing diligently at home, then you should let us know by email so we can provide special help and check for technical problems. We have been working in class to identify students who are struggling so we can help them and so we can let you know. Remember that practicing at home is the first order of getting better. **Ten to twenty minutes of nightly practice is expected to achieve these results. By the Spring Concert, most students will need 20-30 minutes of regular practice.** Some students do it with less time and some students may need coaching on how to practice smarter.

All 4th grade string students will participate in a final, end-of-the-year concert at Wood Canyon Elementary School in the Performing Arts Center (PAC). More details will be coming home on this important concert very soon! If the date assigned to your child's school is inconvenient, you may attend the alternate date. (Please send a note if you plan on the alternate date so we can keep a count of students.) If your child does not attend for any reason, a short make-up report may be done to maintain their grade. An instruction page is available upon request.

**(report time is 20 minutes early for 4th graders and 15 minutes early for 5th graders)

Wednesday, May 27: Crown Valley, Del Obispo, Hidden Hills, George White

4th Grade Strings performance:	5:30pm - 6:00pm
5th Grade Band performance:	6:30pm - 7:00pm
5th Grade Strings performance:	7:30pm - 8:00pm

**(report time is 20 minutes early for 4th graders and 15 minutes early for 5th graders)

Monday, June 1: John Malcom, Palisades, Wood Canyon

4th Grade Strings performance:	5:30pm - 6:00pm
5th Grade Band performance:	6:30pm - 7:00pm
5th Grade Strings performance:	7:30pm - 8:00pm

DRESS CODE FOR ALL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS:

Girls - Any Colors! Nice dresses or skirts and blouses.

Boys - Any Colors! Nice slacks with dress shirts. Dress sweaters, sport coats, suits and ties are appropriate but not required. No shorts, sweats or jeans! Dress shoes if possible!

Thank you,

Andrea Howard and Kory Wentzel, Orchestra Instructors
ajhoward@capousd.org & kswentzel@capousd.org
OR leave a message for us at your child's school

Due the week of June 1, 2015

Name _____ School _____

Instructions for Home Practice Guide Completion: Each week, your child's practice should have a specific focus. We are providing you with practice goals and objectives for each week of the month. In most cases, your child will receive instruction on the material prior to playing the material at home. Each week, he/she needs to practice the assigned material repeatedly. Once your child feels prepared to play the assigned piece(s) for you, he/she will give you a short concert and/or explanation of the material. Once the concert is completed, please sign the appropriate week's box.

Date	Page #s	Pages Completed/Song(s) Played	Parent Sig.
	32 33	Choose any 2 songs from page 32, as well as Peter's Hammer on page 33 for a parent. List the songs here: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. Peter's Hammer	
	34	#90: Norwegian Folk Song (with repeat=2 times) #91: Pizzicato March (pizzicato=pluck with your first finger)	
	35	#94: Clown Dance (with repeats=3 times) Fill in the blanks to complete #95 & #96	
	38	#106: Old MacDonald (with repeat=play 4 times)	
	39	#111: Go Tell Aunt Rhodie	
	40	#116: D Major Scale and Arpeggio	
	41	#117: School March #118: Bohemian Folk Song	
	Extra page	Choose to play: Allegro OR Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious	

**Many of our spring concert songs are posted online for practicing at our website:

<http://www.mrwentzel.com/Stringpage.html>

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