MUSIC LESSON

National Standards for Music Education

2. Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.

9. Understanding music in relation to history and culture.

Background Information

We are going to be studying the music and culture of present day Northern Ireland. Northern Ireland has had a long tumultuous history which resulted in its separation from the rest of Ireland in 1921. The culture reflects the ongoing strife within the country. Many musical pieces are divided into two categories: the Loyalist music and the Republican music.

Purpose

The purpose of these lessons is to create the opportunity for each student to experience some of the culture of Northern Ireland Music Appreciation activities.
MUSIC LESSON (continued…)

Materials

Materials that you will need for these lessons will be pictures from significant parades, various Celtic CD’s, souvenir instruments and instruments for children’s use, i.e. recorders, drums.

Concepts

1. To perform music individually and in a group reflecting Northern Ireland culture.

2. To explore music in relationship to the culture of Northern Ireland.
Objective: The 4th grade class will have the opportunity to develop an awareness and appreciation of Northern Ireland culture and to individually learn to play simple Irish tunes on recorders.

1. The teacher will have a photo display of marching bands for the class to view. Discussion will follow regarding uniforms, colors, instruments, marching in unison to the beat of the music being played, etc.

2. The teacher will play selected songs from Celtic CD’s featuring marching band music. Discussion will follow noting differences in rhythm, dynamics, pitch, etc.

3. Encourage children to march to the highly-spirited music.

4. Instruct children to play selected songs as a group. (Children have had previous experience playing the recorder.)

Options:

1. Children may perform for parents and/or other classes.

2. Children may perform individually or as a group.

3. Children may individually create simple melodies.
Additional lessons that may be created:

1. Use different types of Irish music to depict moods and times.

2. Incorporate overview of different singers, composers and instrumentalists.

3. Include marching/dance steps.

The same lesson may be appropriate for multiple Grade levels as follows:

Kindergarten and Grade 1

Grades 2 and 3

Grades 4 and 5

Grades 6 through 8