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Instrumental Music - 4th and 5th Grade

Beginning Band Google Class Link: <https://classroom.google.com/c/Mzc3MjAyODgzNTha>

Intermediate Band Google Class Link: <https://classroom.google.com/c/Mzc3MjAyNzM5OTVa>

Here are some ways to keep your child engaged and excited about practicing their instrument at home:

### **Goal-based/Deliberate Practice versus a Set Length of Time:**

Students are given tasks to complete at home every week. There is no set length of time to practice, but rather, students should practice until they achieve the goal.

Here are a couple of great articles that reiterates this notion:

<https://www.npr.org/sections/deceptivecadence/2012/06/18/155282684/getting-kids-to-practice-music-without-tears-or-tantrums>

[https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/how\\_to\\_motivate\\_kids\\_to\\_practice\\_hard\\_things](https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/how_to_motivate_kids_to_practice_hard_things)

Things to Keep in Mind:

1. There will be squeaks! Lots of them. Please encourage students at home, even when the sounds they make are "less than ideal" for the ears. They have to figure out what is "wrong" before they can figure out what is "right".
2. Quality of practice sessions: 4 or 5 days of consistent practice (15-20 minutes) makes much more of an impact than 1 long session. Shorter durations over the course of the week help students to reinforce the techniques learned in lessons. Without consistent practice, progress will be very limited.
3. Please consider buying a music stand for students to use at home. Practice without a stand causes posture issues and affects the way students hold the instrument, which affects the sound they make.
4. There is no magic to learning an instrument. Patience, consistency, and tenacity make the strongest musicians!