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7/19/10- NEH Most Southern WS  
Lesson Plan

AIM: What is the “math” of the blues?

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Students Will Be Able Too (SWBAT) identify the type of chords (dominant 7<sup>th</sup> chords) used in blues, and the length of the blues (12 measures or “bars” of music)

STWBAT understand what a “bar ” of music is

STWBAT direct their peers and teachers through a 12 bar blues form

STWBAT understand the chord progression by naming the chord number

RESOURCES NEEDED: Piano, chart paper, chalk (chalk board, marker), yard stick

BLUES FORM (to be written on the board):

/ I / VI / I / I /

/ VI / VI / I / I /

/ V / VI / I / V /

The Roman numerals above represent the chord progression each numeral occupying 1 bar of music; the chords (All, Dom 7<sup>th</sup>) are to be played in the left hand, and are spell out below. We are in the key of F:

I – F, A, C, E(flat)

Vi – B(flat), D, F, A(flat)

V – C, E, G, B(flat)

The right hand plays melody utilizing the blues scale:

F, A(flat), B(flat), B, C, E(flat), F

Kids can than create lyrics using the three line verse form typically found in blues- A A B