Music Education through a Montessori Lens: Rethinking Music Centers
Sarah Burns

Work Task Descriptions

**Shapers**
**Task:** Create a variety of music symbols using pipe cleaners.
**Materials:** Pipe cleaners, music symbol flashcards
**Self-Check:** Flashcard with name.
**Assess:** Point to music symbol when it is named.

**Tracers**
**Task:** Trace the music symbol on the flashcard then trace it in sand.
**Materials:** Flashcards, Frisbee, sand
**Self-Check:** Flashcard with name.
**Assess:** Draw the music symbol correctly.

**Music Rubs**
**Task:** Rub over sand paper with a crayon to reveal the music element.
**Materials:** Sand paper cut-outs, music terminology/symbol/instrument/picture, crayons, paper.
**Self-Check:** Sheet with each element defined and/or named.
**Assess:** Match the rubbed music elements with labels.

**Build-A-Chord**
**Task:** Create chords using labeled sticks.
**Materials:** Craft sticks labeled with all the notes of the chromatic scale (3 sets of chromatic sticks), Flashcards with a) chords letter names and b) chords written on staff notation.
**Self-Check:** 2 sheets: 1) correct chords with letter names; 2) correct chords with staff notation.
**Assess:** Recite requested chord notes.

**Dynamic Chart**
**Task:** Identify the empty blanks.
**Materials:** Craft foam charts, dynamic tags
**Self-Check:** Sheet showing the completed dynamic chart
**Assess:** Complete a blank dynamic chart.

**Arpeggio DOH!**
**Task:** Play Arpeggio DOH! melodic patterns on bellset then sing it.
**Materials:** 4-Note bellset, Arpeggio DOH! melodic patterns
**Self-Check:** Match the melodic pattern with 4-note bellset diagram.
**Assess:** Accurately play/sing melodic patterns at sight.
### Types of Works

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[Photos courtesy of Sarah Burns]