



Teaching *for*
TRANSFORMATION

“Honoring America’s Veterans”

4th Grade Music

Jen Last
Denver Christian School





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Deep Hope: Our deep hope is that we learn to follow the true director in life's story while shining confidently in the gifts and roles God has given us.

Storyline:

FOLLOW HIS



CUE

Long Term Learning Targets:

- 🎯 I can...follow God's cue by shining confidently in a Veteran's Day Tribute through the gift of music to thank and honor veterans in the community.
- 🎯 I can... follow God's cue of showing compassion by learning more about who a Veteran is and what that means to me as an American. I can then thank them with a personal letter.



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Curricular Outcomes:

Include the main state curriculum standards you covered during this FLEx/unit.

Perform sections of songs that demonstrate learned rhythmic, melodic, and introductory chordal accompaniment components. Standar 1- Music Expression 1.1

Perform complex notated songs with accurate pitch, rhythm, tone, harmony and expressive elements. Standard 1- Music Expression 1.2

Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work. Standard 2- Drama and Theatre Arts 2.3



Habit(s) of Learning:

We are CURIOUS THINKERS. Students thought critically about what it means to be a veteran by learning from a real veteran. Students wrote letters to veterans through Wounded Warrior.

We are JOY-FILLED COLLABORATORS who are grateful to be able to perform for local veterans in our community. We have a blast making music and memories, and we also reflect that this performance is not about us, but about others and bringing God glory.



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Storyline: Follow His Cue

Students learned to follow God's cue in giving their best for themselves, God, and local veterans through music and letters.

Students learned to follow God's cue to show others compassion and share their gifts of music.



Throughlines:

Students are SHALOM RESTORERS because they are sharing their talents of music with veterans to bring honor, gratitude, and peace.





Formational Learning Experience:

Real needs:

Gratitude, Honor, Respect, Pride and Love toward America's veterans.

Real people:

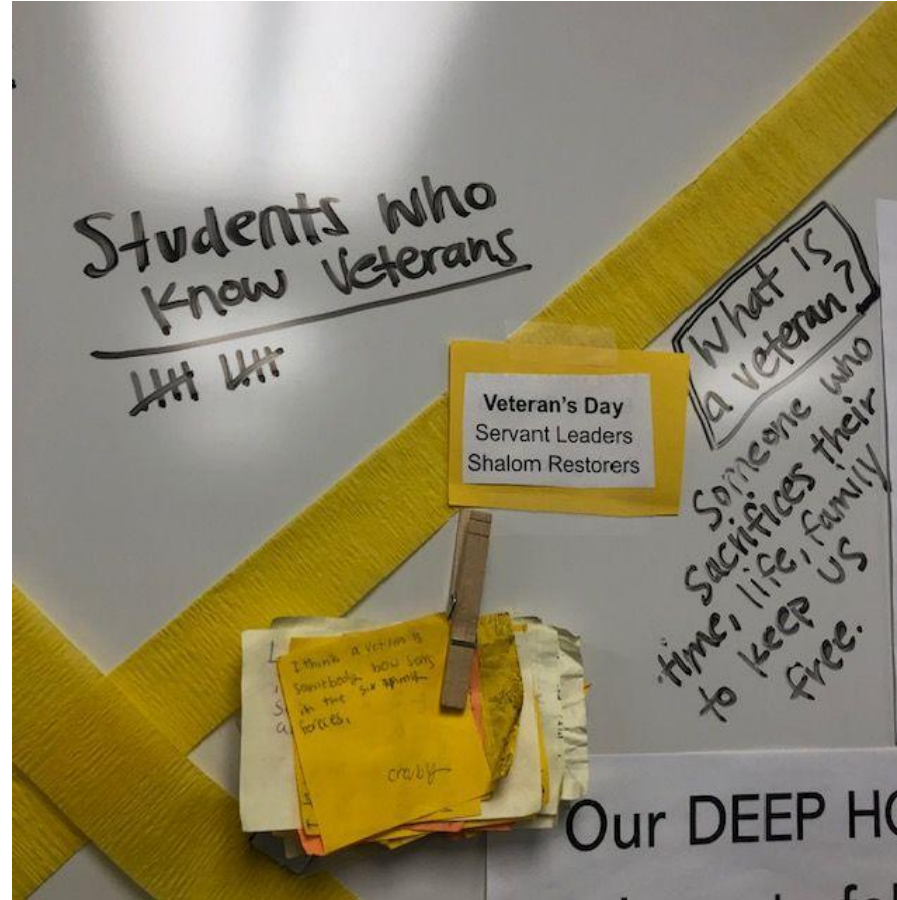
Local Veterans and Wounded Veterans in the United States.

Real work:

Blessing veterans with a Veteran's Day Tribute Show and Performance.
Writing letters so veterans know they are not forgotten.

INVITE

We began with a dialogue about what is a veteran or if students know any.





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Petty Officer Bill Last

We invited a dad from our community to talk about his time in the Navy and what it means to be a veteran. Students learned why honoring them is so important and what this means to us as Americans.





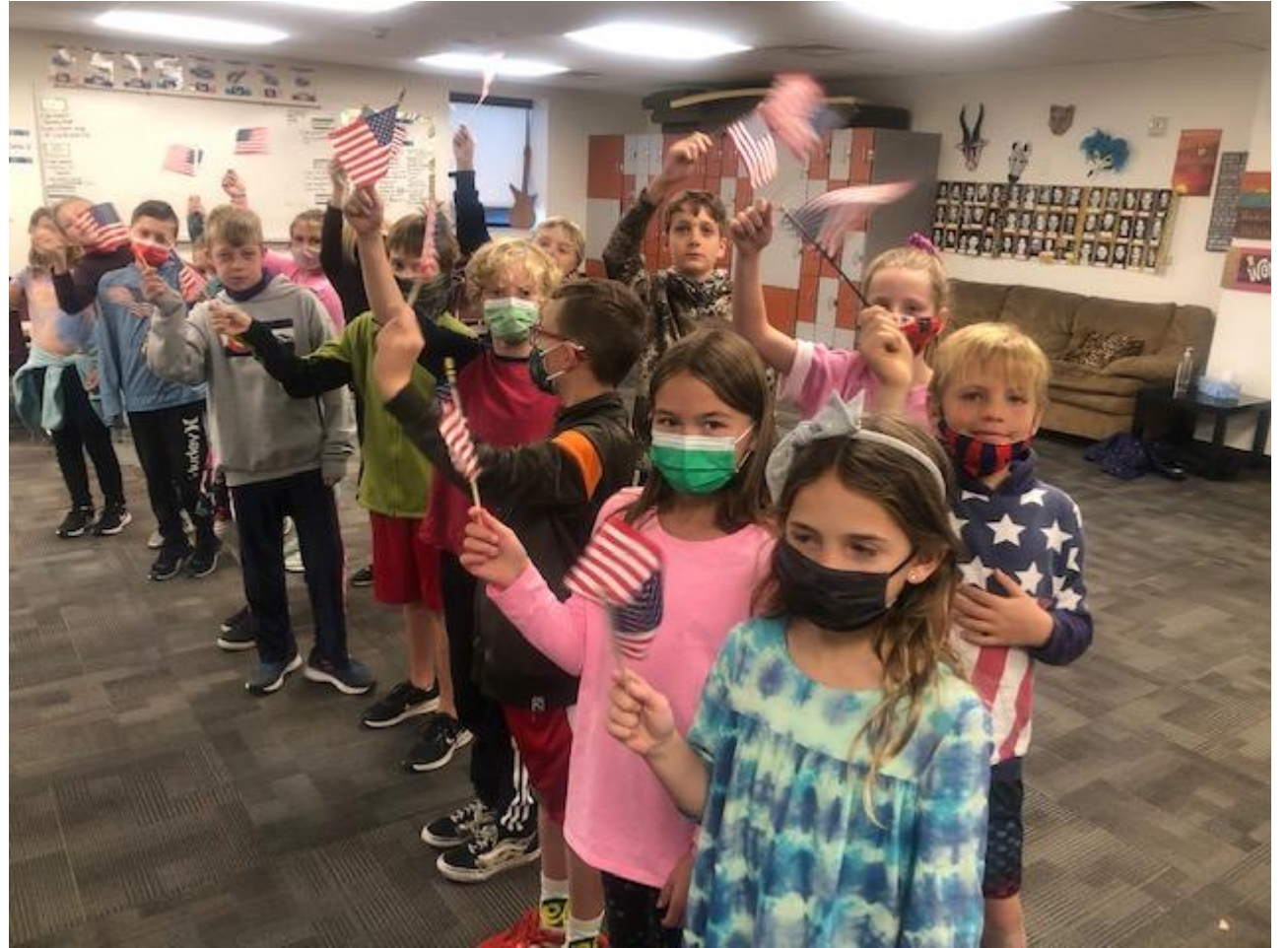
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NURTURE

Rehearsal

Students worked hard to rehearse their show local for veterans at Lakeview Living Center nearby! They were nurtured throughout the memorizing process to remember why this show was so important. We had great discussions about how we can show honor with our voice and presence on stage.

[Veteran's Day Tribute Script](#)



Performance at Lakeview Living Center









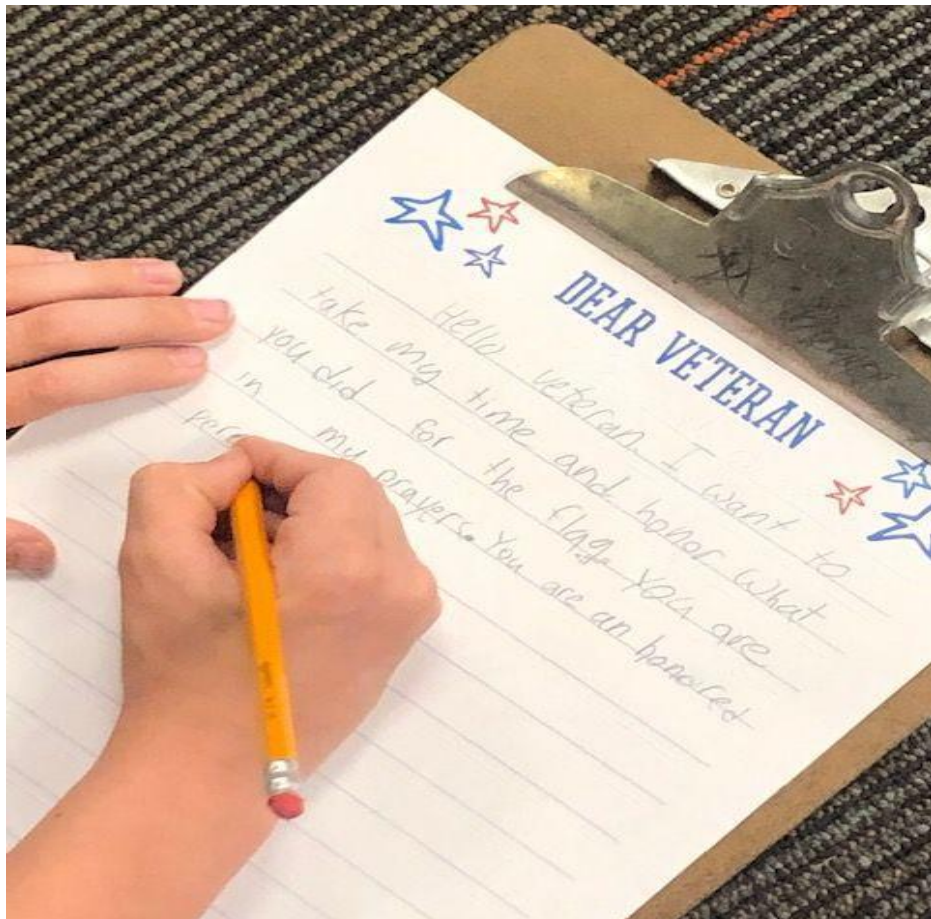
EMPOWER

Students were empowered to take what they learned about veterans and apply that to their performance and to any veterans they know or meet. They also wrote personal letters to wounded warriors throughout the United States.



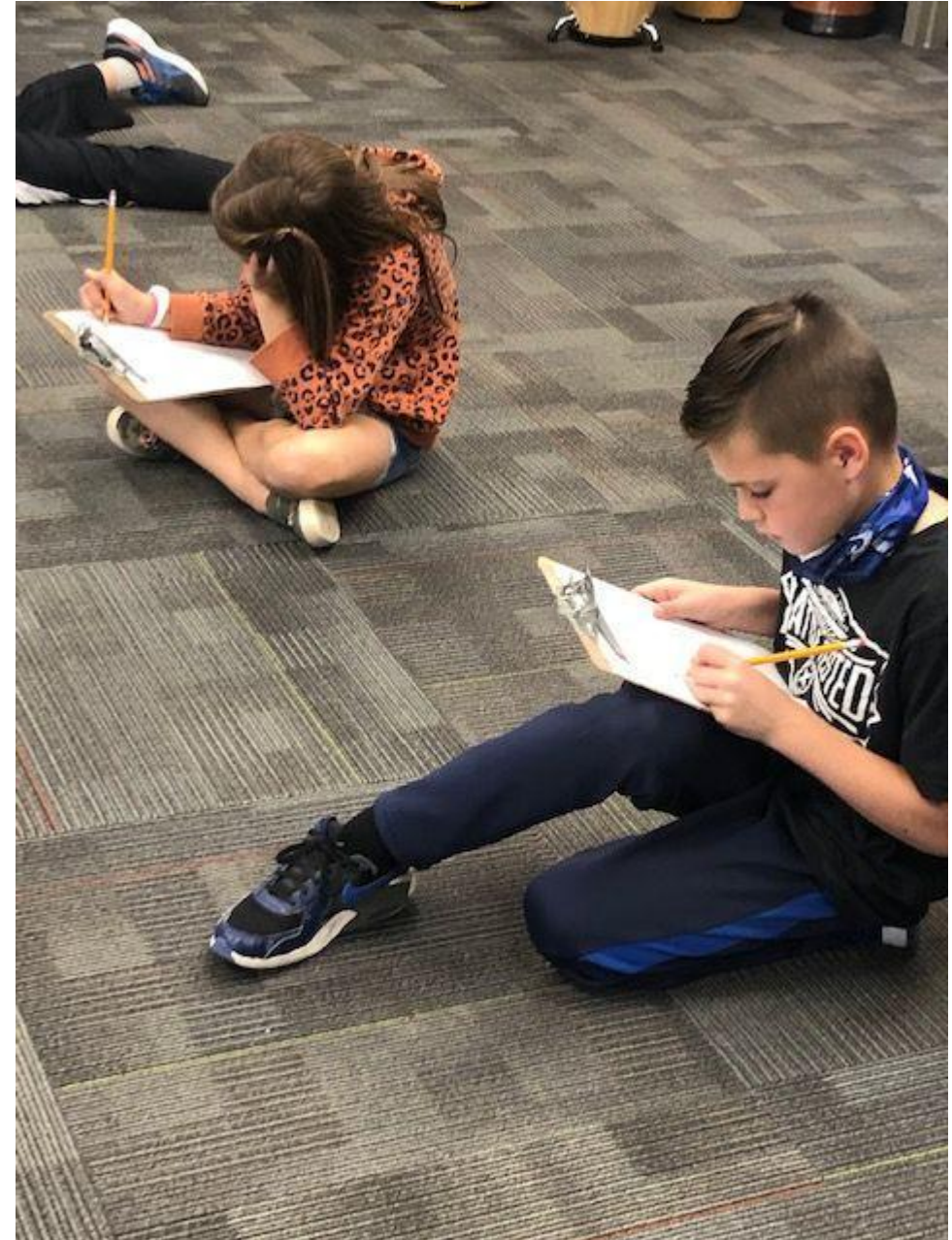
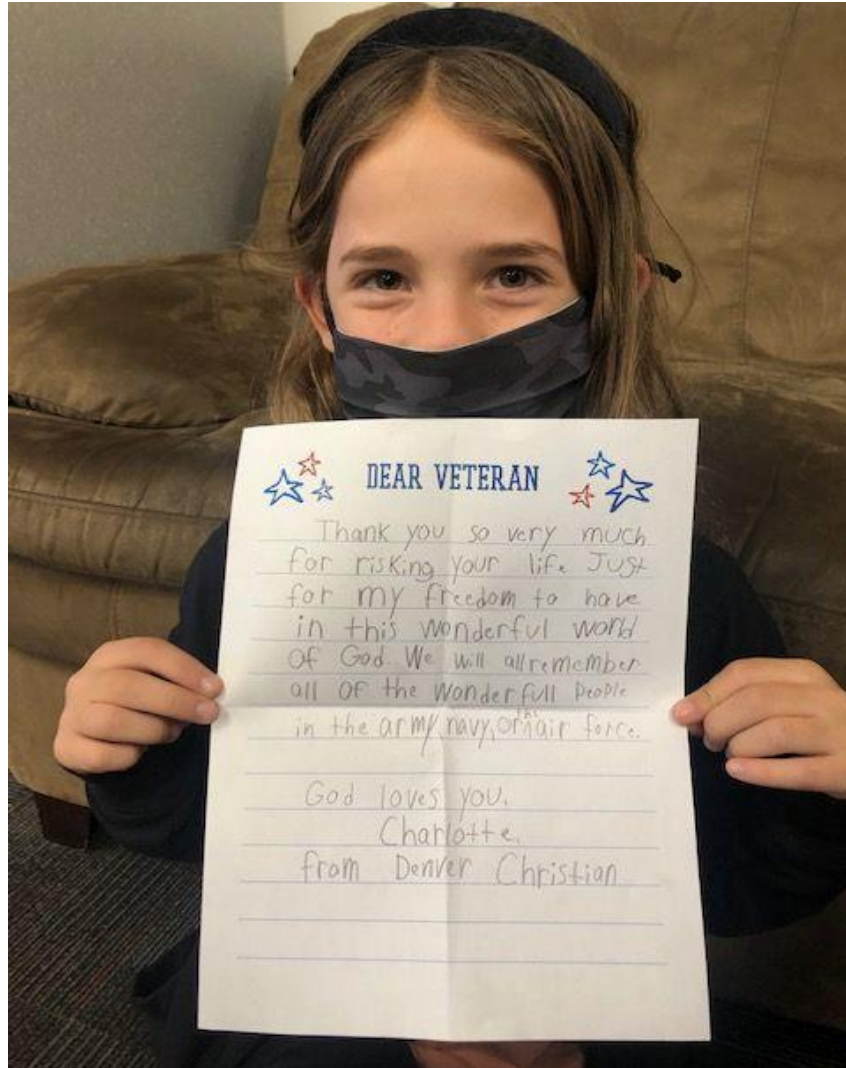
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Writing Letters to Wounded Warrior





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Student Reflections:

- After the performance, students met in groups to discuss the pride, gratitude, and joy they felt to bless veterans.
- They also shared that they now understand how important it is to honor a veteran because they know who they are and what they go through for our freedom



Teacher Reflections:

How were the Deep Hope and long-term learning targets realized?

It is always special to have my husband come and speak to my students about veterans and our country. I believe that through this visit, our performance, and letters, students have a deeper understanding of our military and our country. From here, they can now remember to thank veterans ALL of the time, not just on Veteran's Day. Students recognized our deep hope to follow God's cue in our gifts of music to help and thank others.



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Additional Information to tell the story:

Blog from our Denver Christian School website

[Honoring Our Veterans in Elementary School](#)

Clips from the Performance

[Video Clips from Veteran's Day Performance](#)



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