

Developing an Efficient Practice Routine
Mr. Smith's Orchestra Students

- Tune: A440, then D, G, C, E
- Set you metronome to 60 beats per minute
- For each scale, practice using a full bow for each note, beginning with whole notes, then half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes, triplets, and finally sixteenth notes at 60 beats per minute
- Warm Up Scales:
 - Book 1:
 - D Major: D E F# G A B C# D (Exercise 183)
 - G Major: G A B C D E F# G (Exercise 184)
 - C Major: C D E F G A B C (Exercise 186 or 187)
 - Book 2:
 - D Major: D E F# G A B C# D (Exercise 2, 193, 194)
 - G Major: G A B C D E F# G (Exercise 10, 191, 192)
 - C Major: C D E F G A B C (Exercise 22, 198, 190)
 - A Major: A B C# D E F# G# A (Exercise 55, 195, 196)
 - F Major: F G A Bb C D E F (Exercise 97, 197)
 - Bb Major: Bb C D Eb F G A Bb (Exercise 104, 198, 199)
 - D Minor: D E F G A Bb C D (Exercise 125, 200, 201)
 - G Minor: G A Bb C D Eb F G (Exercise 129, 202, 203)
- Practicing a Piece of Music:
 - Break the piece down into small sections
 - For example, practice only two, four, eight, or sixteen bars at a time
 - Learn the notes correctly first
 - Once you have the fingerings for the notes perfect, then add the rhythm
 - If the rhythm is challenging, practice clapping or saying the rhythm
 - Once you can play the notes and the rhythms perfectly, add the metronome
 - Begin at the slowest tempo that allows you to play perfectly, no matter how slow
 - Once the section is perfect at that tempo, increase the tempo by 5-10 beats
 - When it comes to learning music, slow is smooth, and smooth is fast
- Always be aware of:
 - Accurate intonation
 - Accurate rhythm
 - Proper posture
 - Wrist angle
 - Bow hold
 - Placement of the bow
- Don't be afraid to:
 - TEACH YOURSELF NEW THINGS
 - Teach your parents/siblings
 - Learn music by ear
 - Have fun!!!