

# How to Test for Recorder Belts

## **1. Test During Music Class:**

- During most class periods, students will have recorder practice time. After Mrs. CB has helped any students that need assistance practicing, she will hear students that are ready to test for recorder belts.
- Mrs. CB will go alphabetically through the class list, asking students if they are ready to test for her. Students may skip their turns if they do not feel prepared.
- Students will receive up to three attempts to play their music correctly.
- If a student passes his/her first song during in-class testing, he/she may attempt testing for a second song. No student will be able to test for more than two songs during a single school day.

## **2. Record Yourself Playing at Home:**

- If you feel ready to test for a song, you may choose to record yourself playing that song at home (using a iPad, camera, etc.), and send Mrs. CB the video file.
- You must include the following elements in your recording:
  - Before beginning, say your name, teacher's name, and the title of the piece you will be playing.
  - Also, hold up your copy of the music so it is visible to the camera (before playing your song).
  - While playing your recorder song, the camera must be recording your fingers. If Mrs. CB cannot see your fingers in the recording, you will not pass the song.
- Submit your recording to [biglakerecorder@gmail.com](mailto:biglakerecorder@gmail.com). Your name and the song title should be in the email's title.
- You may only test for one song at a time if you are testing in this way. I need to give you feedback during music class before you can submit another recording.

## **Recorder Belt Progression**

White – “Hot Cross Buns”

Yellow – “Gently Sleep”

Orange – “Merrily We Roll Along”

Green – “It’s Raining”

Purple – “Old MacDonald Had A Farm”

Blue – “When The Saints Go Marching In”

Red – “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star”

Brown – “Amazing Grace”

Black – “Ode to Joy”



# Recorder Testing Rubric

Students pass a song, and receive their recorder belt, if they score all 3s and 4s on the following rubric. Students will not pass if they have any 1s or 2s. Think about these categories while you are practicing.

	<b>4 - Excellent</b>	<b>3 - Good</b>	<b>2 - Fair</b>	<b>1 - Minimal</b>
<b>Rhythm</b>	Student plays the correct rhythms.	Student plays with a few mistakes in rhythms.	Student plays with several mistakes in rhythms.	Student is unsure of many rhythms in the piece.
<b>Tempo</b>	Student keeps a steady tempo.	Student keeps a mostly steady tempo.	Student's tempo is inconsistent.	Student has many stops and starts.
<b>Pitches &amp; Fingerings</b>	Student plays the correct pitches and uses correct fingerings.	Student plays with a few mistakes in pitches and uses correct fingerings.	Student plays with several mistakes in pitches and/or uses some incorrect fingerings.	Student seems unsure of many pitches and/or their fingerings in the piece.
<b>Tone Quality</b>	Student has a pleasing tone. He/she does not overblow or squeak.	Student has minimal problems with overblowing and/or squeaking.	Student has inconsistent problems tone quality. Some squeaking occurs.	Student plays with poor tone. Squeaking occurs, which caused by overblowing or not sealing holes completely.
<b>Tonguing</b> (beginning each note with a light "tu")	Student uses tonguing consistently.	Student uses tonguing most of the time.	Student sometimes uses tonguing.	Student does not use tonguing.

Each day during practice time, you must have at least one person listen to you play the recorder. This person needs to sign your practice log. The person listening to you should look at this rubric and give you specific feedback about how to improve your performance. You should be prepared to pass your prepared song(s) when you come up to test for Mrs. CB.

