Concepts to Introduce Using Improvisation
Joy Morin

Basic Concepts:

- Pulse
- Range: high vs. low
- Topography: black key 2’s and 3’s
- Quarter notes vs. half notes
- Half notes vs. whole notes
- Tempo: fast vs. slow
- 2/4 and 4/4 time
- Dynamics: forte vs. piano
- Intervals: half vs. whole steps
- Intervals: 2nds vs. 3rds
- Rests
- Q&A phrases
- Articulation: legato vs. staccato
- Triads
- Arpeggios
- 3/4 time
- Modes: major vs. minor
- Key signatures

Later Concepts:

- Quarter notes vs. eighth notes
- Eighth notes vs. sixteenth notes
- Accompaniment styles
- Style: Jazz, Baroque, Blues, etc.
- Intervals: 4ths, 5ths, 6ths, 7ths, octaves
- Syncopation
- Modulations
- AB and ABA form
- Texture: thick vs. thin
- Texture: homophonic vs. polyphonic
- Two note slur gesture
- Motive
- Scale passages
- Ostinato
- Ornaments: grace notes, trills, etc.
- 6/8 time
- Secondary chords: ii, viio6, etc.
- Non-chord tones: suspensions
- Cadences: plagal, authentic, deceptive
- Sonata form
- Rondo form (ABACABA)