Abridged Unit Plan

The Abridged Unit Plan is designed for teachers who have limited time with students and cannot teach the full ten-lesson unit. The five lessons are cumulative, featuring select activities from each lesson and culminating to the final project where students write a polished set of lyrics. Further adjustments may need to be made depending on the length and frequency of the class.

DAY	TITLE & LESSON PLAN	LESSON	ASSESSMENTS & HANDOUTS
Day 1	What is Songwriting / Parts of a Song		
	1. Introduction to Words & Music	Lesson 1	
	2. Songwriting Pre-Assessment	Lesson 1	"Try a Song" Worksheet (Pre-Assessment)*
	3. Brainstrom	Lesson 1	
	4. Group Discussion	Lesson 1	
	5. Activity #1–3	Lesson 2	"This" Student Lyric Sheet
	6. Homework	Lesson 2	Song Structure Practice Homework
Day 2	Title and Hook / Subject and Theme		
	1. Free Write**	Lesson 3	
	2. Discuss Homework	Lesson 3	
	3. Brainstorm	Lesson 3	
	4. Activity #2–6	Lesson 3	"The House That Built Me" Lyric Sheet
	5. Activity #1	Lesson 4	"Man in Black" Worksheet
	6. Homework	Lesson 4	
Day 3	Rhythm and Syllables / Rhyme		
	1. Free Write	Lesson 6	
	2. Discuss Homework	Lesson 5	
	3. Brainstorm	Lesson 6	
	4. Activity #1—3	Lesson 6	"I Hope You Dance" Lyric Sheet
	5. Activity #1 and 4	Lesson 5	"Bridges" Lyric Sheet
	6. Homework	Lesson 6	
Day 4	Creating Strong Images		
	1. Free Write	Lesson 7	
	2. Discuss Homework	Lesson 7	
	3. Brainstorm	Lesson 7	
	4. Activity #1–6	Lesson 7	
	5. Homework	Lesson 7	"I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry" Lyric Sheet
Day 5	Focused Lyric Writing Day / Revision		
	1. Free Write	Lesson 8	
	2. Discuss	Lesson 8	
	3. Brainstorm	Lesson 8	
	4. Lesson #1-5	Lesson 8	Songwriting Checklist Handout
	5. Activity #3 and 5	Lesson 9	Partner Revision Handout
	6. Submitting Lyrics	Lesson 9	Final Song Lyrics (Final Assessment)*
	7. Evaluating the Program	Lesson 9	* See Lesson 10 for more details

^{*} See Pre-Unit Assessment Rubric and Final Lyric Assessment Rubric in Supplemental Materials (p.74–75)

^{**}See Free Write instructions and Teacher Tip in Lesson 2 (p.14)