



Learning A Musical Instrument

- Learning to play a musical instrument takes time and commitment. Time to bring your child to their scheduled music lesson each week and the commitment to establish a daily practice routine with your child.
- Learning a musical instrument is a life-long commitment, an activity that develops attributes such as patience, goal setting, and perseverance.
- Music is an activity where children who dedicate their childhood to learning a musical instrument will benefit them for life.
- There is no easy method to learning a musical instrument, it's only through daily repetition and practice.

Fostering Music In The Home

- Create a music room or a music area where your child can play music and practice their instrument.
- Use soft toys to decorate the room or area give the toys musical names and use the toys as part of your child's practice.
- Have your child create music posters and other decorations and hang them in the music room or music area.
- Don't be afraid to play your child's instrument on the odd occasion, show your child you can learn also. The best results are when the parents learn together with their child.



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Developing Positive Practice Habits For Beginner Music Students

- Music practice should be a regular part of your child's daily routine. Important to establish a regular practice time. (For example after school, before homework or early morning before school).
- Don't push young children (beginner students) into long practice sessions - five or ten minutes will probably be enough (a good rule for beginner students is to double their age, for example a 7 year old should practice for about 7 to 14 minutes).
- It is important that parents make the effort to be with their child while they are practicing.
- Develop a practice record book to fill in, which reward students for keeping to their weekly goals and schedule. Rewards can be in many forms and variations such as an outing, stickers, an ice cream, playing their DSnintendo. Find what your child likes and enjoys and incorporate it as a reward.

Parental Commitment

“Training the parent rather than the child”

- It is vital that parent’s play an active role in their child’s music education and in their child’s music lesson.
- Attend your child’s music lesson (sit with them in their music class (at the piano), learn with your child, understand what they are learning and how your child must practice.
- Do not be afraid to ask their teacher questions on the music they are learning, so you can comfortably assist your child at home.
- It is vital that you ensure your child maintains a structured practice schedule. Young children are unable to structure their own practice.

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