



let's play music

A WHOLE NEW WAY TO TEACH MUSIC

what does it teach?

- Emphasizes melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic ear training
- Introduces spatial skills necessary for note and rhythm reading
- Teaches note reading
- Studies the music of the masters to understand classic form and instrumentation
- Encourages freedom of expression and musical interpretation
- Channels the young voice into beautiful singing by providing correct vocal models and frequent singing opportunities
- Teaches fundamentals of harmony and chord progressions
- Utilizes "full body involvement" for more effective assimilation of concepts and skills
- Adapts skills to the piano

What does all of this mean? It develops musical aptitude. Your child will learn the things that cause us as adults to say that a person is musically talented. Can you teach talent? YOU BET!!! Research has shown that musical aptitude (talent) is more acquired than it is hereditary. "Musically talented" people are so, not because of genetics, but because of a musical environment at a young age.



when should these skills be taught?

This curriculum operates on the premise that the very young child is capable of learning complex musical skills, and that there is indeed, a learning "window" for children to maximize their musical aptitude. The optimal learning window for music is 3-9 years. However, manual dexterity does not develop until age 7-8, and letters (which are the traditional tools for teaching music reading) have little meaning until age 6-7. Introducing piano too soon will actually stunt their musical learning, because their hands slow down what their minds and ears are capable of.

how are these skills best taught?

Full Body Involvement

Through playing, dancing and singing! Lessons are structured with minimal talking and explaining. Children learn best by just doing. Research has shown that the more physically involved a child is in the learning process, the more he/she will internalize the concept. That's why we will involve as much of the body as possible. i.e., the voice, the eyes, the ears, the hands, and even the full body.

Experience Precedes Learning

Children also learn concepts more easily if the concept is experienced and understood BEFORE it is labeled. For example, they will learn to love rhythms and how to subdivide a beat long before they are told that a "quarter note" subdivides into two "eighth notes". Then, in subsequent years of music instruction, they will grasp the concept instantly because they have already learned it, they just have not yet labeled it. Then, learning music theory is exciting and easy rather than boring and difficult.

Group Interaction

Children are much more likely to enjoy the setting when there are other children around. The synergy of a Let's Play Music! class naturally encourages children to participate and excel.

Want to hear more? So will your child! Ask your child's teacher for more information.