

TALKING ABOUT MUSIC: READING

Rui Ventura



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According to a study by the University of Southern California, students who learn how to play musical instruments, experience faster brain development. Students also see improvements in motor skills, listening, sensory development and self-esteem. A parent is usually giddy with excitement and pride when their children say they want to learn a musical instrument – provided, of course, that they're interested in something more than banging a drum at all hours of the night.

What do children learn from musical instruments?

There are plenty of benefits students earn from taking up a musical instrument. Here are five of the most important that our researches at Vanco found.

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* Improves Interpersonal Skills

These “soft skills” are essential for childhood and even more important for adulthood. Because students in a music program need to work with each other as a team to perform their work, they learn teamwork and other key interpersonal skills.

* Memorization

For students to be successful in their coursework, they need to be able to collect and internalize large amounts of new information. When students learn a musical instrument, they learn an entire language of notes. This learning process takes muscle and practice, which music programs help to build. As students practice musical instruments, their brain power increases, helping them with their coursework.

• Promotes Creativity

For students to become successful adults, they need to think outside the box to solve complicated problems and innovate. By learning a musical instrument, students can find an outlet to express themselves creatively.

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* **Boosts Self-Esteem**

Facing criticism is tough for anyone, but for students it can be even harder. By learning a musical instrument, students learn about constructive criticism and are challenged to improve in a positive way. This not only helps them to grow character and build self-worth, but helps students grow resiliency against non-constructive criticism and bullies.

* **Improves Motor Skills**

By improving coordination and dexterity, musical instruments develop motor skills within students.

But with so many popular musical instruments to choose from, which one should parents and students choose? In the article below, we outline some of the most popular musical instruments for students. We also outline the virtues and important factors to consider when choosing between them.

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