

MUSIC THEORY AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

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WHAT CAN LEARNING MUSIC DO FOR MY CHILD?

- Music is a way to worship God and give praise to Him.
- Music is a lifelong gift to share with others. Even a young child can have a ministry.
- Music is a language unto itself. Music speaks when there are no words.
- Develops many desirable attributes (i.e. focus, concentration, hard work, attention to detail, expression, critical thinking skills, perseverance, problem solving, responsibility, poise, confidence, how to respond to success & setbacks, time management.)
- The ability to sight-read or sight-sing a piece of music is a great asset to have.
- A study of music theory will enable your child to progress faster.
- Knowing the piano will make it easier to transition into another instrument.
- Careful not to start voice lessons at too young of an age. Just sing!
- Music stimulates the imagination, strengthens memory skills and relieves stress.

LEARNING STYLES:

Music study uses all three types of learning styles: VISUAL, AURAL & KINESTHETIC.

- * Visual learners picture an object in their mind.
- * Aural learners hear the object or put words to music to aid memory.
- * Kinesthetic learners envision the touch of the object and how it feels.

SETTING UP A HOMESCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM:

1. Provide a room away from the TV or other distractions.
2. Set up a computer screen for online video instruction.
3. Have a chalkboard or dry erase board available.
4. Provide plenty of pencils with erasers!
5. Have room to allow movement.
6. Have a piano or keyboard present.
7. Provide teaching aids.



WHAT SHOULD A HOMESCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM OFFER?

1. A structured and progressive music theory curriculum.
2. Music Appreciation and a study of the different Eras of Music
 - a. Relate the Musical Era with a specific time in World History.
 - b. Do hands-on projects that take the student “back in time” to the Era.
3. Ear Training

IMPORTANT PEOPLE INVOLVED:

1. Support from the family provides an always appreciative and captivated audience.
2. The parent should review Lessons and the child’s work.
3. A private teacher may be necessary when teaching a child to play an instrument.

PROVIDE VISUALS:

1. Posters with motivational Scriptures or words create an atmosphere of achievement.
2. Keyboard mats provide a visual of the piano keyboard and encourage movement.
3. Grand Staff mats/note discs provide a visual of the music staff and encourage movement.
4. Flashcards provide a quick visual and can be used with a timer.
5. Manipulatives (scale blocks, rhythm blocks) are essential for visual and kinesthetic learners.

RESOURCES:

1. Lesson & Performance Method Books are available that teach how to play the piano.
2. Begin with a primer or late beginner level to set a strong musical foundation.
3. A scale book provides necessary technical exercises.

4. READING MUSIC:

A Theory Time music theory workbook provides a comprehensive music theory program that applies to all music study. Each workbook is creative and fun & contains detailed explanations, drill, review and Fun Sheets to reinforce instructional material and to stimulate a student's imagination. Fifteen levels provide one level for every potential year of study, age 3 – grade 12. Teacher's Editions provide answers and ear training drills with answers.

5. The **Theory Time Online Academy (TTOA)** provides video instruction for every lesson in every Theory Time workbook, Primer through Grade 12.

6. The Theory Time A-12 (15 level) workbook series is the official study material of the National Federation of Music Clubs Festival theory event.

ACTIVITIES TO ENJOY WITH YOUR CHILD:

- Attend symphony concerts, concerts by special artists, and choir concerts.
- Watch videos on composers such as Bach, Mozart and Beethoven.
- Listen to music and do an activity that reflects the fashion, dance, architecture, etc. of the Era. Theory Time's "Great Composers from Bach to Bartok" provides such a curriculum.
- Most of all, sit with your child during the early, formative years while practicing or doing work.

An effective lesson plan:
1. Teach the concept.
2. Drill it with a worksheet.
3. Reinforce it with a game.

(See Composers in Time handbook at the Theory Time booth for styles of the different Eras).



Theory Time provides the resources you need to be successful:

Workbook Series

Keyboard & Grand Staff Mats

Scale Blocks & Rhythm Blocks

Flashcards (note reading, symbols, key signatures, chords, rhythm)

Games (see theorytime.com)

Theory Time Online Academy (TTOA) video lessons

Alphabet Note Discs

Highlighting Tape



Reproducible Cross-curriculum thematic studies: Great Composers from Bach to Bartok, Musical Stories and Suites, Have a Blast with the Past, Hansel and Gretel, Cinderella, Then and Now, Ancient Egypt, Hit a Home Run with Theory - Lesson Plans & Worksheets
Hit a Home Run with Theory - Game Packet (available at theorytime.com)



Go to YouTube and find these excellent musical and educational resources. Search for:

Scripture songs for kids / Steve Green Kids' Songs / Fifty States that Rhyme
Fifty Nifty United States / The Periodic Table / Fraction Songs for Kids
Math Engaged-Music & Fractions

website: www.theorytime.com

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phone: 281-208-3803 ext 1: Ron (sales) ext 2: Heather (customer service)

theorytimevideos.com (TTOA)

Work so hard that one day
your signature
will be called an autograph!

Come & Visit Heather & Ron Rathnau
at the Theory Time Booth
for a conference discount!

Music is to the soul
what words are to the mind.

The fact that children can make
beautiful music is less significant
than the fact that music can make
beautiful children. - Cheryl Lavender