
Seton Home Study School
Music 2 Lesson Plan

Some of these songs you may want your child to memorize, such as the Star Spangled Banner and America, as well as some favorite religious songs. One favorite way to start the day is to sing a song after the Pledge of the Allegiance. It begins the day on a happy “note.” It is a popular custom among our families to sing a religious song after prayers. It is a fun way to have “class!” Don’t forget to look in your library for good records and song books. Your library might have a book about Francis Scott Key, or a beginning book about musical instruments with illustrations.

Please record your child’s grade on the Third Quarter Report Form and send it to Seton along with your other third quarter subjects, or submit the grade online at www.setonhome.org.

FOURTH QUARTER

WEEKS 28 TO 36

You may wish to start this quarter with the songs *Palm Sunday Chant for Passiontide* and *Up the Hill to Calvary*. After Easter break, cover the Eastertide songs and then the Pentecost songs.

Your child may enjoy the songs by dancing or singing or acting out the lyrics. Also point out details such as the treble clef, five lines and four spaces, notes going up and down. You may want to teach some music notation as you feel your child is ready.

Some of the songs are particularly wonderful and touching, and teach a lesson. Be sure not to omit *Jesus Dear Come to Me* and *Teach Us How to Pray*.

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You might be interested in reading the following article which appears on the website: www.steinway.com, titled “It’s all in Black and White.”

PIANO TRAINING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD HAS LASTING REWARDS

There is an undeniably strong correlation between music education and the development of skills that children need to become successful in life. Self-discipline, patience, sensitivity, coordination, and the ability to memorize and concentrate are all enhanced in the study of music. These skills will follow your child on whatever path he or she chooses in life. You have the chance now to introduce a formative influence that may be second only to the love you give your child. If you’re looking for a way to provide your child with a source of life-long joy, satisfaction, and accomplishment, childhood music education is an excellent first step. And the piano is an excellent first instrument. No other single instrument matches the piano for its broad application of musical concepts. Even if later your child chooses to play another instrument, the melody, rhythm and sense of harmony acquired with piano education will pay off handsomely.

BETTER SOONER THAN LATER

New evidence exists that there are actual physiological benefits to early childhood music education. A study released in February, 1997 presents findings that music education — specifically, piano instruction in pre-schoolers -- produces changes in the brain which enhance children’s abstract reasoning skills. These skills are necessary for learning mathematics and science, to play chess, and to master many concepts of engineering.