

Announcements



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- Our third session of classes begins on **April 5th**, we would love for everyone to come back to make a joyous sound.
- Don't forget that **Levine Spring Break** is from April 11th to April 18th! There will be no classes during that week.

Questions or comments? Please feel free to contact us.

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Happy Birthday!



Arya- April 15

Favorite color: Rainbow

Favorite book: Addy

Favorite song: We Don't Talk About Bruno

Favorite food: Cheeseburgers and Chocolate

Favorite instrument: Trumpet



Kasra- April 11

Favorite color: Green

Favorite book: Secret Pizza Party

Favorite song: Gangnam Style

Favorite food: Pizza

Favorite instrument: Guitar



Bringing Music into the Home



Since you've enrolled your child in First Music classes at Levine, I know you appreciate the importance of music in your child's life. But how can you incorporate more music into your daily family life? Here are a few suggestions that do not require any musical training.

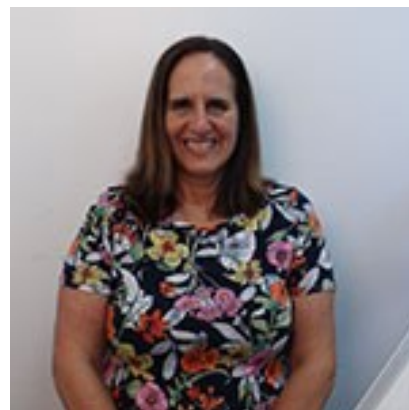
Transition Times

For the young child (and the parent who's trying to keep to a schedule) transition times can often be stressful. Adding music can be helpful in these transition times. Recent studies have shown that music boosts listening, cooperation and trust among people of all ages. Wake up time could include songs as familiar as "Rise and Shine", "Oh What a Beautiful Morning", and "Wake me Shake me". In our First Music classes, we try to make our transitions musical by singing our hello songs, goodbye songs and "time to put our instruments away" clean up song. That could easily be transferred to clean up time at home.

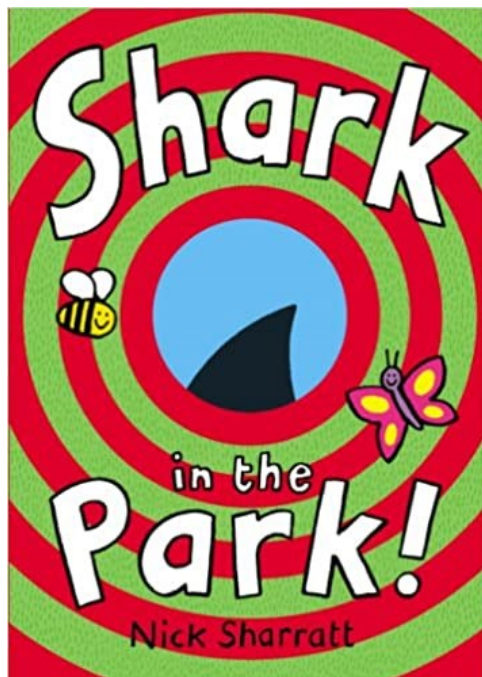
Musical "Scribbling"

Young children are often given a chance to scribble or draw. Eventually their scribbles become shapes and figures. In music, this would correlate to improvisation. Children need the opportunity to improvise rhythmically and melodically. This can be done with very simple instruments. As we learned during the pandemic, the kitchen cabinet can be a treasure trove of instruments: pots, pans, wooden spoons, etc. Create a structure of rhythmic conversations and call and response. You can use common nursery rhymes or create your own! If you want to get a little fancier, collect some glass jars, fill them with varying levels of water and create your very own "glass harmonica".

-Gurjeet Khalsa



Musical Book



Shark in the Park by Nick Sharratt

One of the most favorite activities in First Music classes are our musical stories. This is an activity that can be easily reproduced at home. There are picture books that are illustrated songs. But many children's stories can become musical. Look for simple repetitive stories where you can sing the repeated section. The childhood so mi chant is a great place to start. There are lots of musical concepts you can add such as tempo and dynamics. A story I'm using right now in class is Shark in the Park by Nick Sharratt. We practice using our talking voice, calling voice, singing voice and even our shouting voice! The repeating section - "he looked at the sky, he looked at the ground..." is the part we sing!

Family Concert



Glen Echo Park- Carousel Day Saturday April 30th 11 am- 4 pm.

This should be a great day at the park with Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer, folk musicians, Taiko drumming, Mystic Warriors, world music musicians, Washington Revels presenting a musical parade and maypole dance. All this and the beautifully restored carousel! For more info on the schedule, check out the website: <https://glenechopark.org/carouselday>