

Recorder-Orff Courtesy Information

1. Encourage your child to use the washroom before class begins.
2. Please try to arrive in the Kindermusik waiting room at least 5 minutes early for your class. You may enter the music studio when the teacher opens the classroom door.
3. Please do not leave your child unsupervised while not in class.
4. You will receive a monthly newsletter via email from your child's teacher with information about Sharing Time and other important notices. Sharing Time will occur about 3 times per semester for the last 15 minutes of class. You will receive a reminder email the week before. Please be courteous of others and remove any siblings that cannot manage during the Sharing Time. Please be courteous of others and remove your child or any siblings that cannot manage during the Sharing Time.
5. Your child should bring his/her **Young Child Tote Bag and Recorder** to every class.
6. At the first class, your child will receive a binder with class assignments for each week, a Songbook (Playing Soprano Recorder) and a table music stand.
7. **Consistent attendance is extremely important** since the *Recorder-Orff* program is a series of building blocks. Each lesson builds upon the previous one.

Home Assignments:

1. Through weekly home assignment sheets, parents and children are encouraged to work together to practice the recorder and to facilitate reading and writing of musical symbols and notation. Weekly follow-through at home is encouraged and expected each week.
2. Set aside a regular time, between classes, to work with your child (10-15 minutes several times a week).
3. You may want to have your child complete the assignment page on one day and to practice the recorder piece on another day. If your child is absent, please complete the assignment for the missed week so that your child will be ready for class the following week.
4. Keep in mind that the most important place the child will learn to play the recorder is at home. Here each child can work at his or her own pace.

The Orff-Schulwerk Approach

The title SCHULWERK means schooling (in music) through being active and creative. The philosophy involves an holistic approach to music education based on what Carl Orff called "elemental music" which he defined as:

*"Never music alone but music connected with movement, dance and speech
- not to be listened to, meaningful only in active participation."*

The ORFF approach believes in PROCESS. It embodies learning by doing, starting with that which is natural for the child and building, step by step. ACTIVITY is the key to enjoying the music experience.

From SPEECH and MOVEMENT evolve MELODY and RHYTHM. INSTRUMENT PLAYING is a colourful and magical extension of these vocal and kinesthetic experiences. The ENSEMBLE allows each child to participate and enjoy the pleasure of making music together. Each child contributes according to his/her own abilities. A sense of COMMUNITY is nurtured as children sing, move and play instruments together.

The goal of these experiences is for the child to become musically independent and have the confidence, skills and desire to CREATE his own music.

The ORFF INSTRUMENTS (xylophones, metallophones and glockenspiels) were inspired by authentic instruments from a variety of cultures.