



Mini Musicians Two

Welcome!

Each hour class has 7 components:



1. **Ear Training:** Every lesson starts with some form of solfa exercise followed by a song. By the end of the 36 weeks, students will be singing the hexatonic solfa scale: do re mi fa so la. The songs included in this portion of the lesson are simple, traditional, folk songs from all over the world that allow students to practice using their singing voices, finding the beat, and coordinating various actions.



2. **Technique:** We will be working on gaining independence and awareness in the student's body and in particular, their hands. Even though we're starting to dive into five-finger patterns (pentascale) in this section, we are still not using legato technique and the fingering are always optional. We continue building finger dexterity through fingerplays. These rhymes also help students to feel the beat as they are recited or chanted rhythmically. Finger independence is crucial for playing any instruments because different fingers have to be able to do different things at different times.



3. **Rhythm:** We continue to reinforce note values learned in year one, as well as briefly introducing 16th notes. We work with these through chanting, moving, games and improvising, and using rhythm pattern cards.



4. **Theory:** We will be reviewing the piano keys that they learnt last year and exploring some elements of the staff to prepare them for music reading. We focus mostly on steps/skips & up/down, and we will also introduce a few landmark notes at this stage. By the end of the year, students will be very comfortable with these basic intervals and directional movement, and will also be familiar with the grand staff and its structure.



5. **Improvisation:** We will be exploring animals in 4 different environments through music during the 36 weeks: forest, ocean, desert, and sky. The improvisation patterns allow students to explore the full range of sounds at the piano and to engage their creativity and imagination.



6. **Star Songs:** Simple, beginner piano pieces learned throughout the 36 weeks.



7. **Listen & Color:** We will explore "The Nutcracker" & "The Young Persons Guide to the Orchestra" while coloring to further develop hand dexterity.



Mini Musicians 2 year Layout

Mini Musicians Year 1

Spring Semester (12 weeks long)

Week 1-12

- Learn C, D & E on the piano
- Learn & play 3 star songs
- Learn eighths, quarters, half notes, dotted half notes & whole note rhythms
- Improvisation inspired from rainforest and ocean scenes
- Learn Do, Mi, Sol & La

Summer Semester (12 weeks long)

Weeks 13-24

- Learn A, B, F & G on the piano
- Learn & play 7 star songs
- Practice rhythms & developing a steady beat
- Improvisation inspired from ocean & desert scenes
- Learn & review solfege: Do, Re, Mi, Sol & La

Fall Semester (12 weeks long)

Weeks 25-36

- Learn C major scale
- Learn & play 4 star songs
- Practice rhythms & developing a steady beat
- Improvisation inspired from ocean & sky scenes
- Review all solfege

Mini Musicians Year 2

Spring Semester (12 weeks long)

Week 1-12

- Learn C, G, D, A & E major
- Learn & play 7 star songs
- Learn time signatures
- Improvisation inspired from rainforest and ocean animals
- Learn dynamics

Summer Semester (12 weeks long)

Weeks 13-24

- Learn B, G^b, D^b, A^b major
- Learn & play 6 star songs
- Practice rhythms & developing a steady beat
- Improvisation inspired from ocean & desert animals

Fall Semester (12 weeks long)

Weeks 25-36

- Learn E^b, B^b major & introduce minors
- Learn & play 7 star songs
- Practice rhythms & developing a steady beat
- Improvisation inspired from ocean & sky animals
- Review notes on staves

*Registration is open all year long so feel free to jump in whenever you'd like!

*Since this is a no-to-low practice curriculum, at-home practice is encouraged, but not required.