

Edmonton Suzuki

PIANO SCHOOL

Excellence from the Beginning: Ensuring Your Beginner (Or Older Student!) Has a Successful Lesson

Preparation on Lesson Day

- Mention to your child early in the day that it's lesson day.
- Mention it periodically throughout the day with enthusiasm and interest.
- Play the Suzuki CD, focussing on the songs that your child is learning.

Preparation Before Departure and on the way to the Studio

- Offer your child a healthy snack.
- Allow plenty of time to get to the lesson – no one enjoys feeling rushed.
- Listen to the Suzuki CD in the car.
- Arrive at the studio quietly, remove outerwear, and if there is a lesson in progress, sit down and observe the lesson.
- Please remember to be as quiet as possible. While you are waiting, you are actually preparing your child to focus and concentrate on his/her lesson.

What to Bring to the Lesson

- Your Suzuki repertoire book.
- Your Practice Guide for note-taking and a pencil.
- Avoid bringing toys or other items that might distract your child during the lesson.

During Your Child's Lesson

- During your child's lesson, you are the "silent partner." As an observer, your role is to simply watch, listen, and take notes.
- Questions and comments can break your child's focus, so save them for the end of lesson time.

Praise

- A show of affection for your child, such as a hug, smile, or high five, is usually well received at the end of the lesson. This kind of non-verbal communication demonstrates unconditional love for your child.
- Children know when they are being patronized, so be very careful and honest about your praising.

Stop While You Are Ahead

- If your teacher notices that your child's attention span is waning, she may conclude the lesson, regardless of what time it is, for to continue would be counter-productive.