



A PRACTICING GUIDE FOR PARENTS

How You Fit In

Always keep in mind that your support is a key element in your child's success with music study.

Scheduled Practice Times

Music achievement requires effort over a period of time. You can help your child by:

- Providing a quiet place in which to practice.
- Remaining nearby during practice times as often as possible.
- Scheduling a consistent, daily time for practice.
- Praising your child's efforts and achievements.

Supporting Your Child

- Encourage your child to play for family and friends.
- Offer compliments and encouragement regularly.
- Expose your child to a wide variety of music, including concerts, and recitals.
- Encourage your child to do well at his or her lessons.
- Make sure your child's instrument is always in good working order.
- Allow your child to play many types of music, not just study pieces.
- Listen to your child practice, and acknowledge improvement.

- Help your child build a personal music library.
- Try to get your child to make a minimum two-year commitment to his or her music education.

Things to Avoid

- Do not use practice as a punishment.
- Do not insist your child play for others when they don't want to.
- Do not ridicule or make fun of mistakes or less-than-perfect playing.
- Do not apologize to others for your child's weak performance.
- Do not start your child on an instrument that's in poor working order or condition.
- Do not expect rapid progress and development in the beginning.

If Your Child Loses Interest

- Discuss the situation with your child to determine why their interest is declining.
- Talk to your child's music teacher to see what might be done to rekindle their enthusiasm.
- Encourage your child to stick with lessons for an agreed to period of time.
- Offer increased enthusiasm and support.

GOOD LUCK!!