

October 19, 2023

Laura & Dina are hosting and directing the topics! We have no affiliation or benefit from any resources or products, and remember that we're here to share great resources and great ideas. Feel free to add websites or links in the chat, and we will give you a few moments at the end of the meeting to copy it for your personal use.

Which technical concepts do you expect an average 8 year old to develop in the first 3 months of lessons?

Posture (whole body playing)	88%
Hand position	96%
5-finger scales	63%
Triads	29%
Octave scales	17%
Other...	13%

Which skills do you introduce in the first 3 months?

Legato	79%
Staccato	75%
Portato	25%
Dynamics	79%
Other...	4%

RESOURCES: Finger Fights; Squishy balls; Lady bug toy; Pop-its; Perfect Start, Series; The Easiest Technique Book Ever, Series; A Dozen A Day, Series.

What is your approach to teaching Rhythmic concepts?

Traditional note names first	50%
Counting with numbers	64%
Kodaly, Takadimi, etc.	27%
Orff, Dalcroze, etc.	13%
A combination of methods	53%
Your own words/syllables	53%
Other	20%

Show & Tell Time: Demonstrate your favourite tool for teaching rhythm?

- French language note names
- Split apple
- Blocks and/or Lego
- Money - quarters & loonies
- Backing tracks

- Pizza: Whole note is Whole Pizza, Divide into 2 is Half note, Divide into 4, Quarter note etc.
- Walk for quarter notes and run-ing for eight notes
- I use the concept of the heartbeat to help with pulse. It's always there but can change speed sometimes. All the notes must fit into the heartbeat. They need to tap their upper chest and then speak word rhythms which I equate to values later
- App – Apple only - MetroTimer

Which Aural Skills do you expect an average 8 year old to develop in the first 3 months?

Pitch differentiation (high/low; same different)	100%
Direction	100%
Major/Minor	65%
Intervals	46%
Tone Matching	50%
Melodic imitation	42%
Rhythmic imitation	73%
Other	4%

Which aural skill do you have the most difficulty teaching?

- Intervals
- Melodic imitation

Ideas, links and books that were mentioned during the session:

Fun

- Composer bag – a bag with items that relate to a composer – fun for young students

Aural

- Books - Celebrate Music, interval list
- <https://tonesavvy.com>

Technical

- Record yourself playing new technique for students to hear them.

- Give students manipulatives to put on keys to identify key names (pictures glued on foam backing.... C is a cat, etc). Dozen a Day for older students.
- Show them D (dog) in the doghouse between the 2 black keys as a reference. We then play different pitches with different fingers in either hand using various motions/gestures to play legato/staccato. We re-create animal sounds/motions as well. This helps with coordination and touches.
- Dozen a Day