



Mini Musicians One

Welcome!

Each hour class has 7 components:



1. **Ear Training:** We will be working on vocal exploration followed by a song; sometimes animal noises or other silly sounds which help students explore pitch, and sometimes simple solfa exercises. By the end of the 36 weeks, students will be singing the full pentatonic scale in solfege with the jumps do-mi and mi-so. The songs 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. You won't find any traditional scales or five finger patterns! We start to build 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:** In this first level of Mini Musicians, students will meet these note values: . We work with these mostly through chanting, moving and improvising, but they will also be working on feeling the beat every week through marching, tapping knees, passing beanbags and moving with scarves in time to the music.



4. **Theory:** The primary concept covered in this first year is keyboard geography. We also cover the concepts of high vs low, loud vs soft and same vs different.



5. **Improvisation:** We will be exploring 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 Carnival of the Animals" and "Peter and the Wolf" 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.