



FOR PRIMER LEVEL STUDENTS

"My Child is between the ages of 3-5... I want them to take piano lessons NOW. What do I do?" GREAT question! Here is what I will suggest to that...

1. Buy a piano.

It needs to **be as close to a full-length piano** with 88 keys as possible. Digital keyboards are more popular than ever. I practice on one! But please buy a keyboard that **has at least 60ish weighted keys**, make sure it has **a stand for music**, **a stand for the keyboard to sit on**, and **an adjustable piano bench**.

2. Put the piano in a part of the house that isn't A. lonely and B. where their TV or electronics are.

It's important to associate practice with simply that. Practice. If it's an area where the child is consistently motivated to learn, then practice time will be associated with learning. If your piano is in an area where the child naps/sleeps, then practice time will be associated with sleepiness. I could go on and on. The best place for a piano is in a living room area or in a school room.

3. If you have an acoustic piano, keep it tuned!

One of the luxuries of a real acoustic piano lol! However, it is very important to keep up with tuning your piano. Your child will need to hear the correct pitches when they play. **If you don't know of any tuners, ask me about this, and I will provide you with some contact information.**

4. Have the piano in your house for months – even years – before your child begins lessons.

Not all may have this ability until you want your child to take Piano Lessons. This is **merely IF YOU CAN**. This is about developing a sense of the everyday about the instrument (the piano is a part of normal life) as well as allowing the child to explore the instrument quite thoroughly prior to lessons beginning.

5. Encourage your child to play around with the piano prior to beginning lessons WITHOUT forcing them.

This helps with familiarity, how the keys sound, look, and how you need to touch the keys to make sound. It will seem agonizing (because they are just hitting random note) BUT it is SO GOOD for them! It will actually save a lot of time in the beginning of lessons!

6. Make sure your child knows the difference between their right & left.

Left hand **LOW** notes, Right hand **HIGH** notes!

7. Make sure your child knows HOW TO SAY & READ their alphabet. At least from A to G. And maybe back again.

8. Lastly, I require a lesson of at least 30 minutes. If your child does not follow instructions well, it might be best to wait on formal piano lessons and simply work on the points above.

I can **TOTALLY** deal with hyperactivity. Piano Teachers have all kinds of lesson plans to help with the wiggles. I won't expect a 3-year-old to stay still and silent all during our lesson! However, I cannot work with a student who simply does not want to listen or obey what I am asking. To save a frustrating process for both of us, I ask that you keep this in mind. I welcome **ALL** children to my Piano Studio, but I please ask that you are aware of your child's maturity level before starting formal Piano Lessons.