



Why Kindermusik? Our benefits make us better.

Music helps your child developmentally in so many ways. Our benefit statements in class and in your home activities provide you with the latest in child development research and strategies to implement this learning into everyday life.

	<p>Language and Literacy - Nursery rhymes aren't only lots of fun to hear and say; they actually set the stage for early reading. Through rhymes like goose and loose, a baby becomes aware of all the different sounds in his or her own language and how those sounds are combined to make words. Becoming familiar with phonemes, the small sounds that make up words, is an important part of each baby's future reading success.</p>
	<p>Cognitive Skills - Research shows a positive correlation of steady beat with reading, vocabulary, math, music, and physical coordination. Steady beat seems to help in these areas because it contributes to a child's ability to concentrate, understand space and distance, and have better control of physical movements. Exercise that crosses the midline of the body helps develop the corpus callosum, the "connector" between the two hemispheres of the brain. The two hemispheres of the brain must work together to reach the brain's potential.</p>
	<p>Creativity - The best learning experiences are those that integrate the senses, learning domains, developmental needs, and interests of the child. For example, a great integrated activity might involve singing, language, imagination, listening, creativity, problem solving, and pretend play. Pretend play is based upon a child's real-life experiences and is a bridge to the creative-thinking strategies that develop language, sensory, motor, and cognitive skills. Children construct their understanding of the world and themselves through play.</p>
	<p>Social and Emotional - With their active imaginations preschoolers are often prone to real and imaginary fears. Giving a child the opportunity to experience the fearful item or event out of context and in the presence of a loving caregiver, such as listening together to the recorded sounds of a storm, can help with fear processing. Pantomime is another way for very young children to explore dramatic play. When story-telling, pantomime reinforces and helps internalize the sequence of the story as well as comprehension.</p>
	<p>Mathematics - The National Council on Teachers of Mathematics has long linked music to mathematical development. When young children explore patterns, use reasoning, sing motion songs, and use spatial visualization, for example, they are having mathematical experiences. When children use beat, rhythm, and melody, they can begin to recognize mathematical patterns. Music builds on the informal experiences a child has in the world, and expands a child's perspective in a developmentally appropriate way to include more mathematics.</p>
	<p>Musicality - Participating in music-making and listening to music can be an emotional experience. In fact, many composers write music to express specific emotions and to help the listener feel these emotions. Whether children are budding instrumentalists or vocalists or tomorrow's connoisseurs, they can learn to appreciate the powerful way in which music communicates, making it indeed, the universal language.</p>
	<p>Physical Development - Movement and sensory awareness are the primary ways young children learn about themselves and their world. For example, a child moves up and down long before learning the words up and down, and it is through up and down movements that a baby starts to understand the concepts of up and down. When adults label movements they do with a child (tiptoeing, walking, or gliding, for example) they help that child make connections between what he or she is feeling and the word he or she is hearing.</p>