Paloma Piano - "Be the Best Preschool Piano Teacher in Town" - Webinar Cheat Sheet

What does it mean to be the best piano teacher in town?

- 1) You have a full studio with a waiting list.
- 2) Students and Parents are happy.
- 3) You can charge a premium rate for lessons.
- 4) You many referrals.
- 5) You love teaching.

The Benefits of Teaching Preschool Students

- 1) Preschoolers become great older students.
- 2) Preschoolers increase your enrollment.
- 3) Preschoolers are fun to teach.

Preschoolers need "Off the bench activities"

- 1) Young children learn best using a multi-sensory approach.
- 2) Most preschoolers cannot sit for long periods of time.
- 3) There are many skills preschoolers can learn, it is important to establish goals for preschoolers and have rubrics in place to measure the progress of your preschool students.
- 4) Parents need to see measurable progress with regard to their child's piano study.

Goals For Preschool Piano Students

- 1) To learn strong aural skills.
- 2) To Play with excellent technique.
- 3) To understand how music works.
- 4) To memorize and improvise music.
- 5) Learn to read and sight read well.
- 6) To love the piano and become lifelong players.

Preschool Piano skills

- 1) Lesson etiquette
- 2) Proper Posture
- 3) Finger Numbers
- 4) The Music alphabet
- 5) Treble and Bass Clefs
- 6) Names of the piano keys
- 7) Concentration
- 8) Stories of great composers
- 9) How to play along with the teacher and keep a steady beat
- 10) How to identify high and low sounds on the keyboard
- 11) The names of basic rhythmic value
- 12) The concept of organized sound
- 13) The concept of timbre
- 14) Dynamics
- 15) Tempo
- 16) Listening to great music
- 17) Recital Participation
- 18) Basic improvisation.

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Active Learning for Preschool Piano Students.

- 1) Listening. Preschoolers should be taught to listen carefully through activities that focus on listening to the teacher is making music during the lesson and focus on listening to themselves while they are making music.
- 2) Singing. Preschoolers should sing during the lesson with the teacher and be encouraged to sing outside of the lesson.
- 3) Movement. Movement helps students to incorporate music into their minds and bodies. It is also helpful in building focus and concentration.
- 4) Touch and See. Preschoolers learn by being able to touch and manipulate objects. Look for things that are colorful and have interesting textures.

Preschool Activities

- 1) Popsicle Sticks. Use colored popsicle sticks to help the student find the groups of two and three black keys on the piano. The sticks can also be used for various note-finding games.
- 2) Dice and Glass Beads. Write note names, rhythms, R and H for right and left hand, clefs and finger numbers on the dice. Have student roll the dice find notes, write notes and rhythms or place glass beads on the keyboard.
- 3) The Chalkboard. Draw the staff with a permanent marker. Use it with numbered glass beads to teach rhythm. The Chalkboard can be used for many other activities as well.

The "Preschool Activities Book" at Paloma Piano features these and many other activities in detail.