




*Practice Guidelines
for the Drums and Percussion*

by Kim Milai 5/10
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<p>Basic Lesson/Practice Format:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Warmups2. Exercises, Studies3. Solos and Band Pieces		<p>Although all techniques can be practiced separately, their combination is what makes your drum playing the best it can be!</p>
	<p>Techniques to Improve Playing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• basic reading (rhythm, time signatures)• tempo (speed and accuracy)• tone & articulation (quality & richness of sound when striking)• dynamics (volume)• dexterity (agility)• posture, arm and hand position (strength and stamina)• phrasing & interpretation (combination of the above skills)• proper tuning and adjustment of equipment	
<p>Additional Skill Builders: (incomplete list)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• rudimental study• sight-reading• melodic reading (mallet percussion)• instrument care and cleaning	<p><i>Eventually you can branch into various styles of music (Orchestral, Band, Rock, Jazz, etc.) and gain expertise in a wide variety of percussion instruments.</i></p> 	

Suzuki-style Drum Lessons for Young Beginners by Kim Milai
Parents Practice Outline for 2009-2010

Pick a special time for music, same time during the day, 5-10 minutes, 5 days a week. Make it a fun yet calm time. If you are having difficulty getting your child to practice, then you practice the lesson showing how much fun you are having. Do not make the child stay in the room but make sure there are no other distractions happening while you practice. Note: one skill may take several lessons.

Lesson format: bow, sound, beat, conduct, rhythm, bow

Teaching strategies: echo, trade solos, improvise.

Vocal variations: talk, sing, whisper, shout

Sticks: one stick, both sticks, alternate sticks, patterns

Sound: sound and silence

Listen to any CD assigned all the time in the background of your child's day. You are also more than welcome to bring in a CD of your child's favorite song for a lesson.

Skill 1

- Feet together bow, Follow Me
- Make a sound (voice, body, sticks)
- Sing and play the beat to Johnny One Hammer
- Sing and clap the rhythm to Twinkle
- Conduct (play and stop)
- Counting Game Bubblegum
- Do assigned page in Tap Clap and Sing book
- Bow and End

Skill 2

- Review previous lesson
- Sing and play the beat to Row Your Boat
- Sing and clap the rhythm to Yankee Doodle
- Conduct (fast and slow)
- Continue Tap Clap and Sing book

Skill 3

- Review previous lessons
- Sing London Bridge
- Play beat for London Bridge
- Play rhythm for Old MacDonald
- Improvise on the metalophone
- Continue Tap Clap and Sing book

Additional Songs:
Sally Go Round
Fais Do Do

Drum CD song list:

Track	Song
1	Twinkle variation D (piano CD)
2	Fireflies 2 (flute CD)
3	Lightly Row 5 (flute CD)
4	Twinkle variation A (piano CD)
5	Twinkle variation 6 (flute CD)
6	Twinkle variation C (piano CD)
7	Kagome 3 (flute CD)
8	Allegro 9 (flute CD)
9	Go Tell Aunt Rhody 7 (flute CD)
10	Honey Bee 10 (flute CD)
11	Minuet 15 (flute CD)
12	London Bridge 6 (piano CD)
13	Little Playmates 11 (piano CD) duet
14	Allegretto 13 (piano CD)
15	Allegretto II 15 (piano CD)
16	Allegro 17 (piano CD)
17	Cuckoo 4 (flute CD)
18	Minuet 14 (flute CD)
19	Chant Arabe 12 (piano CD)