

## **Observation:**

Observation is your opportunity to prepare for you and your child's long term commitment to piano lessons, development of over- all musicianship, and a life time legacy of working together, of honing self-discipline for both child and parent, and the rewards of creating beautiful music!

During observation you and your child become familiar with my studio-: You hear the music. You observe how music is learned. You watch students playing fluently and reading fluently. You see group lessons where sense of melody, rhythm, harmony and ensemble are all cultivated . During our consultations, you will be able to ask me any questions about my teaching style. At the same time,your child is absorbing through her senses all the information she needs for a successful start of piano lessons, including the rate of progress she can expect! She will have seen and heard another student learning the same songs she will have been hearing at home, many times a day, for almost two months. She will feel like she already knows me very well for her very first lesson, and she will be familiar with her peers and with all aspects of our Suzuki environment.

## **Observation Etiquette:**

-Your child does not need to actively observe. Reading is fine. Coloring is fine. No devices are in use, however. The child is just absorbing the lesson.

-You are active observing — you are watching, listening, perhaps even taking notes. You are not texting

While I occasionally may turn and speak to you during the lesson you are observing, I will need you and your child to refrain from commenting or otherwise participating while you are the silent observers.

-No eating or drinking, except water.

-The sibling of the student having the lesson is allowed to behave however that family has deemed appropriate (including writing on the whiteboard), but this does not mean that your child can follow suit! Also, the observing children- if there is more than one child present- are expected to pay attention only to the child at the piano or to read or write independently of the other observing children during the lesson. In other words, we are avoiding a 'playdate' scenario of the observing student(s) and the sibling of the child having the lesson!

## **Your responsibilities during the Observation period :**

-Play the Suzuki CD *many times a day*- make duplicate for the car(s) and every CD/Tape player you have available. Until the music is unconsciously in the child's ear he can not hope to play it by ear!

-Attend *all* assigned private and group lessons , All Studio Classes and Recitals scheduled during your observation period!

**(You should have received all the dates.)**

- Read as much as you can about the Suzuki method- I have several books available for loan.

*Finally, enjoy this time: you are enriching the soil of preparation for a lifetime of music making-  
Congratulations on giving this gift to your child!*