

# 🎵 Parents & Teachers in Harmony 🎵 The Key to Student Motivation & Success

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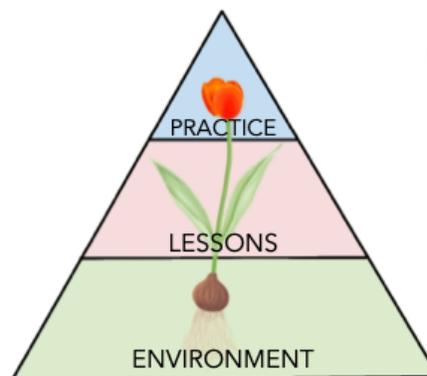
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[“Top 15 Ways to Inspire Kids to Make Music”](#) (free download)

## I. WHY PARENTS AND TEACHERS?

- When parents & teachers are *not* in sync...
  - Parents are frustrated
  - Teachers are frustrated
  - Student is confused or unmotivated or both
  - Progress is stalled
  - Student wants to quit
  - We don't take care of children's hearts
- When parents & teachers are in sync...
  - Happy teacher, happy parent, happy student
  - Student makes progress
  - Joyful music-making
  - Progress leads to ownership
  - Stronger connections

### Musical Child Pyramid



Use this diagram to help you focus first on creating a musically rich environment. If you ever feel lost or think that raising a musical child is really hard, come back here. Let this be your guide.

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🎵 Tips for inspiring kids to make music 🎵

## II. WHO ARE PARENTS AND TEACHERS?

Parents are...

- Busy
- Feeling pressured
- Hopeful, joyful
- Wanting the best for their child
- Imperfect, but can be “good enough” parent

Teachers are...

- Busy
- Trying to do a lot
- Wanting the best for their students
- Imperfect but can be “good enough” teacher

## III. HOW TO WORK IN HARMONY

### 1. Get to know each other

- Teacher ask...
  - What are your goals with music lessons?
  - What music do you enjoy?
  - What do I need to know about you or your child?
  - What do you expect from me?
- Parents ask...
  - What are your goals with music lesson?
  - What music do you enjoy?
  - What are your studio policies?
  - What do you expect from me and my child?

### 2. Communicate regularly

- Teachers...
  - Share your studio policy
  - Ask parents how they like to connect--text, email, phone?
  - Check in regularly – 2x a year (Mid-year check-in for [parent](#) & [student](#))
  - Repeat and repeat

- Parents...
  - Let the teacher know about changes as soon as possible
  - Ask for help
  - Ask to meet
  - The earlier you mention things, the better

### **3. Focus on practice**

- Teachers...
  - Make sure student knows how to practice
  - Practice the practice
  - Check each week to see that practice has happened
  - Guide parents on how to help their child practice
- Parents...
  - Make sure daily practice happens
  - Get rid of distractions
  - Optimize the time for practice
  - Any confusion → ask the teacher

### **4. Bathe the child in music**

- Teachers...
  - Teach parents about the importance of a musical environment
  - Suggest live performances
  - Suggest videos to watch
- Parents...
  - Bathe your child in music
  - Put on the recording
  - Play a lot of music at home, in the car
  - Watch live performances
  - Watch videos of musicians

### **5. Encourage with Positivity**

- Teachers...
  - Point out what the student is doing well.
  - Focus on one point.
  - “Can you play it this way?”
  - Point out what the parent is doing well.
- Parents...
  - Point out what your child is doing well.
  - Redirect when your child is sidetracked.
  - Ask for help if you don’t know what to say.

## 6. Keep learning

Kids will grow and change, so your approach will have to evolve continually. The fun part about parenting (and teaching!) is that it's never the same (okay, maybe not fun all the time) and when you keep learning, everything gets easier.

Thus, it's important to...

- Read articles and books
- [Watch videos](#)
- Take a workshop or webinar (Yay! You did!)
- Take a class

If you want to learn more, consider taking my online parent class:

### **[“How to Raise a Musical Child” Parent Class](#)**

It's a class for parents who want to set a strong musical foundation so that making music is joyful and meaningful.

Topics include:

- Motivating your child to practice
- Finding the right teacher
- Creating a musically rich environment
- Making music fun

6-week session, 1 hour each class, online

More details [here](#)

Parents who took this class said...

*“Barbie, thank you so much for your amazing class! Since I took your class, we are practicing longer and enjoying our time together. – Chloe Park, parent*

*“Barbie, you changed my life. Since using your techniques, my family life is calmer and happier.” - Sue Lee, parent and music teacher*

*"It was very interactive and far exceeded my expectations! In addition to helping my child with his musical skills, I gained parenting skills as well. It's a great class!" - Ryan Paquette, parent*

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 *Tips for inspiring kids to make music* 

## 🎵 What will you do? 🎵

Try out any of these ideas and watch the magic unfold! Please let me know how it goes. I'm always excited to hear from parents and teachers.

Feel free to reach out to me on [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [FaceBook](#), or TikTok (@barbiewongmusic). Let me know if there are any topics you want me to cover.

Thanks for taking the time to be here today!

🎹🌈 Musically yours,

*Barbie*

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p.s. I compiled this list for parents and teachers: "[Top 15 Ways to Inspire Kids to Make Music](#)" (It's a great one to post on your fridge!)