

## Making Harmony Happen: Critical Things To Know About Teaching Music

By [Karoline](#) | Aug 25, 2020

Parents are getting their children to study music to reap the many benefits that are attributed to it. As such, the role of educators in the process is to help those students maximise their learning potential. When educators take on the mantle of teaching music, it is important that they realise the truly critical things that can help learners embrace the subject. So what critical things could these be?

### Having The Right Instrument

A teacher must be able to determine if their learner is paired with the appropriate musical instrument. The learner's age plays a significant factor in choosing the right instrument. For example, the ages of 7-11 are the perfect age for picking up the alto sax and the clarinet, while the ages of 8-10 are the right age for the guitar, according to Prodigies. Once the age is determined, narrowing down the options more helps a lot. For example, if the student is showing an interest in guitar, guiding them toward either an acoustic guitar or an electric one. Educators must possess the knowledge to help direct their charges toward possessing the instrument that best fit their ability at that point in time. This helps ensure that the students won't struggle with an instrument that wasn't a good fit to begin with.

### Engaging The Learner's Interest

Teaching music can be compared to giving a gift to the learner; the thing is, they need to be open to accepting that gift. As such, educators need to be able to get their students to that point of attention in what they're learning. An effective way to achieve that is through engaging their direct interests, according to USC Thornton. For example, a teacher can utilise musical scores from the learner's favourite show or movie to pique their interest. Generating authentic interest does more to get the student invested in their music lesson as they can see the practical application of musical instruments and music in something that they already love.

### The Necessity Of Micro-Breaks

Much like learning other subjects, teachers must recognise the need for their students to take breaks. Whether educators teach face-to-face or remotely (because of the new normal), taking micro-breaks is crucial to promote actual learning. Giving them an opportunity to collect their thoughts, internalise the lesson, and take their minds off the pressure of performing can help contribute toward cultivating their prolonged enthusiasm, according to PC Paathshala. It's also a golden opportunity for educators to interject a period of getting to know their students better through a few questions. They could ask for feedback or the child's thoughts on the lesson at hand. Doing so gives the teacher a chance to adjust any future lessons to better fit the needs of the student.

While the benefits of learning music cannot be understated, the quality of learning can be directly affected by the educator. So teachers must continue to educate themselves on how to provide the best learning experience so that their students can truly absorb their lessons. It is important to remember that teaching is a continuous growth process and educators must continue to strive forward for themselves and their charges.

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