

Sing Your Way Into Each New Day

MENTOR MOM CLASS

by Susan Broadbent

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Quotes:

“Music has boundless powers for moving families toward greater spirituality and devotion to the gospel. Latter-day Saints should fill their homes with the sound of worthy music. ... We hope the hymnbook will take a prominent place among the scriptures and other religious books in our homes. The hymns can bring families a spirit of beauty and peace and can inspire love and unity among family members. ... Teach your children to love the hymns. Sing them on the Sabbath, in home evening, during scripture study, at prayer time. Sing as you work, as you play, and as you travel together. Sing hymns as lullabies to build faith and testimony in your young ones.”
-The First Presidency, Hymns, p. x

“‘Music,’ said Gladstone, ‘is one of the most forceful instruments for governing the mind and spirit of man.’” - Boyd K. Packer, “Inspiring Music-Worthy Thoughts,” *Ensign* Jan. 1974

“Some researchers have found that we remember only a small percentage of what we hear in lecture form. Recall increases when stories or visual aids are included. But if we teach a child a song and they memorize it, they will recall most of it indefinitely (Spectrum, May 5, 1982, Bascom, Hanks).” -A Children’s Songbook Companion, p. 8

Elder Boyd K. Packer has stated, “We are able to feel and learn very quickly through music... some spiritual things that we would otherwise learn very slowly” -“The Arts and the Spirit of the Lord,” *Ensign*, Aug. 1976, p. 61

Elder Dallin H. Oaks has said, “Our sacred music prepares us to be taught the truths of the gospel... we... need to keep singing that we may draw ever closer to Him who has inspired sacred music and commanded that it be used to worship Him.”
-Church News, Oct. 8, 1994, p. 8

Scriptures on the Subject: Doctrine and Covenants 25:12, Psalm 98:4, Ephesians 5:19-20, Colossians 3:16, Matthew 26:30, Alma 5:26, Alma 26:8, 1 Corinthians 14:15

Ideas for Using Music in the Home from Michael F. Moody’s “Orchestrating Family Memories,” *Ensign*, Dec. 1992, p. 22

1. Select a hymn of the week
2. Create a family song
3. Enhance a special family moment
4. Sing in the car
5. Stage a family music festival
6. Sing hymns as a family
7. Organize a neighborhood recital
8. Learn a musical skill
9. Preserve your musical heritage
10. Meditate to music

Some resources to get you started:

1. Hymns
2. Children’s Songbook; Spanish Children’s Songbook
3. Lds.org
4. Scripture Scouts : www.scripturescouts.com
5. Janeen Brady’s Music : www.britemusic.com
6. *A House Becomes A Home* by Lorraine S. and Wells B. Wilkinson
7. *A Smile Will Go A Long, Long Way* by Benny Davis and Harry Akst
8. Musicals! Some of our favorites are: The Sound of Music, The Music Man, Mary Poppins, Fiddler on the Roof, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers...
9. *The Reader’s Digest Children’s Songbook*

10. *Sing Session Songbook: An Accompaniment Book to 101 Songs You Love to Sing* 1980 Warner Bros. Inc.
11. *The Ultimate Jazz Fake Book* 1988 Hal Leonard
12. *100 Kids Songs* Hal Leonard www.halleonard.com
13. Family songs from your Mom and Dad or even Grandpas and Grandmas! Family History! Make them a part of your family!
14. Your own Family Song!

Sing Together: Good Morning To You!

1. Good morning to you! Good morning to you! We're all in our places, with sun-shining faces! Good morning to you! Good morning to you!
2. Good morning to you! Good morning to you! No matter the weather, we'll make it together! Oh this is the way, to start a new day!

Books to teach songs

1. *A Children's Songbook Companion* by Pat Graham, Mary Gourley, Trudy Shipp, Linda Stewart, and Nina Grover. ---This is fantastic!
2. *Our Latter-day Hymns: The Stories and the Messages* by Karen Lynn Davidson

A Teaching Plan: (Questions taken from A Children's Songbook Companion pp. 11, 12)

1. What message do I want the children to learn from singing this song?
2. What words will I need to explain or pronounce?
3. What key words or phrases will help the children learn the song quickly?
4. What visual aids or actions do the words suggest?
5. What personal experience could I relate that would express my feelings or bear testimony of the song's message?
6. What is memorable about the melody?
7. What rhythm patterns make the song interesting?
8. What dynamic markings are given to create mood, tempo, or musical emphasis?
9. What is the form of the song?

Susan Broadbent and her husband, Alma, live in North Carolina where they homeschool five beautiful and energetic children ages 2 months to 10 years old.