



HARMONY'S

MUSIC CLUB

AND THE EARLY YEARS FRAMEWORK

“The range and depth of the experience, linked to a wealth of cross-curriculum activities offers an exciting and insightful program into the development of effective learning within our Early Years Settings.” (Testimonial)

While every themed Lesson Adventure is unique, at the heart of each is learning through play. As Harmony's Music Club wants ALL children to be able to join in, each Lesson Adventure has a multi-sensory approach with singing, movement, playing and actions all included with an emphasis on exploring and experimenting with music, sounds, instruments, body percussion and the voice.

Every class follows the same structure: Setting the Scene; Improvisation; Listening; Joining-In Pieces; and a Number Song. Each of these headings simply sets the style of the activity, it is not preclusive to any other form of music making. For example, joining in is not reserved for joining in pieces and a listening piece is not just sit and listen to a piece of music, but that skill set is at its core.

AREAS OF LEARNING

Every Lesson Adventure, through operating within more than one of the seven areas of learning, is a rounded approach to encourage a child's development towards the Early Learning Goals through effective learning. How each Lesson Adventure operates within the seven areas of learning is outlined below. In addition to this, individual Lesson Adventures 'top-up' this common approach through different activities. To help to see what is addressed, each Lesson Adventure comes with its own "quick glance" guide to demonstrate what it additionally covers to further facilitate children reaching their Early Learning Goals.

1. PSED

- a) **Self-Confidence and Self-Awareness:** Trying new activities, building confidence through talking and sharing ideas about how to play or use the voice or movement. Opening up the floor for children to share their thoughts and preferences and express and present their own ideas. The Adventures are not about getting it 'right'.
- b) **Managing Feelings and Behaviour:** Working together playing and singing and moving as a group and individually. Understanding and following instructions or rules of games. Always being afforded the chance to talk about what they know and to ask questions.
- c) **Making Relationships:** Playing in a group co-operatively and taking account of one another's ideas when choosing what to play or how to sing and how.

2. Communication and Language

- a) **Listening and Attention:** Attentive listening is a core feature of every activity. A diverse range of music and sounds from around the world, across the ages and from nature is presented and is married with responding verbally, physically, musically and emotionally. Each activity grows organically so that children will naturally follow directions, respond to the information given (both musical and verbal) through playing, singing or movement.
- b) **Understanding:** Each Adventure is a forum for exploration and experimentation leading to understanding. The activities create situations for children to respond to instructions or ideas expressed in discussions, explore 'hows' and 'whys' in response to the music, environment, and stories, and choose how to play or sing in response to the information given to them. There is always the opportunity for adding actions and using instruments as props to interpret/imitate/act-out the Adventure. Owing to the thematic style of the Lesson Adventures, there are always opportunities to ask how and why and to have wider discussions.
- c) **Speaking:** Ideas, reactions, narratives are always asked for. Joining in singing, learning songs by rote, repeating phrases, exploring the expressiveness of the voice is encouraged throughout.

3. Physical Development

- a) **Moving and Handling:** The development of control and co-ordination through body percussion, handling instruments when playing along and through exploration of instruments. Spontaneous movement, interpretation of music with movement and actions are also incorporated.
- b) **Health and Self-Care:** See quick glance guides for Lesson Adventures.

4. Literacy

- a) **Reading and Writing:** While song sheets are not provided and teaching of songs is encouraged by rote to aid memory skills, reading and writing is assisted through joining in singing, exploring the voice, adding actions to songs and music and creating narratives to match the music. Individual classes also use pictorial notation and inventing different song lyrics.
- c) **Mark Making:** See quick glance guides for Lesson Adventures.

5. Mathematics

- a) **Numbers:** Every Lesson Adventure includes a Number Song which uses addition or subtraction terminology. Rhythm is central to every Lesson Adventure which itself is exploration of fractions.
- b) **Shape, Space and Measure:** Individual classes address capacity, time, distance, pattern, size, speed. See quick glance guides for Lesson Adventures.

6. Understanding the World

- a) **People and Communities:** Individual Lesson Adventures explore families and cultures, festivals and cultural celebrations and events that children may have participated in and experienced. See quick glance guides.
- b) **The World:** Hearing world music is a central pillar of Lesson Adventures. The thematic approach of the Lesson Adventures means The World is explored in multiple way, including sounds of our environments, science of sounds, time and environments.
- c) **Technology:** See quick glance guides.

7. Expressive Arts and Designs

- a) **Exploring and Using Media and Materials:** Joining in singing and playing, exploring and experimenting with different ways of playing instruments and using the voice, experimenting with manipulating instruments to create different sounds and sound effects. A large range of instruments is recommended for playing along with but also exposure to a large range of instruments is provided through the musical selections across the Lesson Adventures.

- b) **Being Imaginative:** Another central pillar of Lesson Adventures. Thinking of different ways to play instruments, role-play, improvising around themes, creating sound effects, making up narratives, making up words, representing own thoughts and ideas through music and movement, using the voice, using instruments as props. Allowing the music to carry you on an adventure.