



## Lisa's Preschool Music Teaching Tips

### General:

- Plan to sing six songs in each class (better to have too many than too few)
- Know the songs by heart (use chord cards as prompts)
- Continuity is very important - always sing a hello song when entering the room (Boker Tov) and always end class with goodbye song (Shalom)
- Repeat songs week after week to build repertoire
- Use props whenever possible
- Make lessons active - use movement as much as possible (hand motions, sign language, clapping, dancing, percussion)
- Have a favorite silly or movement song ready to use in case the children are nudgy (Sing a Silly Song, Hello Everyone, Shake My Sillies Out)
- If a song isn't working, bring it to an end and move on
- Sit physically at their level - on floor or low chair

### Administrative:

- Ask teachers to put nametags on children each week
- Provide song-sheets for teachers and administrators
- Write newsletters to parents each month
- Keep track of what was sung in each class (use Excel)
- Correspond with teachers by email, letting them know what I expect from them and asking about their classroom curriculum so that I can select songs that relate to what they are learning (bedtime, trucks, insects, etc.)
- Divide curriculum into groups (2/3 and 4/K)

### Typical Routine for 25-minute class:

- Sing a hello song as children enter the classroom
- Give Special Helper the lanyard with the Special Helper badge to wear and ask Special Helper to give song-sheets to teachers
- Teach unit concepts
- Sing 3-5 songs
- Sing transition song and Shalom
- Give out stickers and then students line up at the door
- Get lanyard from Special Helper; give a high five and say thanks for being such a good helper
- Tell the children how much fun it was to sing with them!
- Sing Shalom Chaverim as they exit classroom

### First week:

- Introduce self
- Sing hello song with names
- Introduce Sunshine Bear
- Tell about music class, set the rules and stick to them
- Explain about Special Helper
- Sing Hello/Goodbye/Friendship theme songs