

# fabulous friday flyer

SOUTHEAST  
TEXAS  
SUZUKI  
ASSOCIATION  
SOUTH/SE  
REGION  
2015-16  
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Violin tricks and then some treats!

## Formation Friday, November 2015

### Music mapping, the art of putting sounds on paper.

by Danette Schuh

#### Music can be so elusive.

Sound is an abstract concept. It is fleeting, disappearing almost as soon as it is played. The concepts of form and structure are equally elusive, but we must grasp them to be able to play even the simplest melody. You may have heard your teacher describe Twinkle as a peanut butter sandwich, first with a slice of bread, next adding some peanut butter, and finishing up with another slice of bread. In the terminology of musical analysis, this

is called ternary form. A B A. The A section - "Twinkle, twinkle little star, how I wonder what you are - is the

Just change the abstract into concrete using crayons and paper.

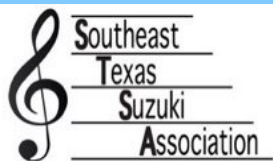
same in the beginning and the end, hence the repeat of the A section at the end. "Up above the world so high, like a diamond in the sky" is in the middle, sandwiched between the two A sections, but the melody is completely different, so we call it B. As the music we learn becomes

more complex, we must increase our skills to remember all the sections while playing. By putting this on paper in visual form, we can change the abstract into concrete, reinforcing the learning process. It can be as simple as drawing a sandwich, or as complex as outlining an entire symphony, with different colors for each instrument and type of articulation. So grab your crayons and make a masterpiece!

#### Next Class:

January 8

Fine Motor Friday! Increase your fine motor skills, necessary for playing an instrument, by making Japanese Origami!



"Art is not in some far-off place. A work of Art is the expression of a man's whole personality, sensibility and ability" -Dr. Shinichi Suzuki  
on the web at [stxsa.org](http://stxsa.org)

# What's next? Upcoming STXSA events...

November 13  
STXSA S/SE Region  
FABULOUS FRIDAY  
GROUP CLASS  
Formation Friday

November 14  
STXSA SW Region  
Ribbon Festival

December 2015  
STXSA HOLIDAY  
CONCERTS - TBA

January 8  
STXSA S/SE Region  
FABULOUS FRIDAY  
GROUP CLASS  
Fine Motor Friday

February 6  
STXSA WORKSHOP

February 19  
STXSA S/SE Region  
FABULOUS FRIDAY  
GROUP CLASS  
Fiddling Friday

details at [www.stxsa.org](http://www.stxsa.org)

## Simplifying the process of practicing... easier said than done?

Responses from last month's parent talk by Danette Schuh

### Make it easier

5 tips that you shared about your practice sessions.

#### 1. Remove the fear of mistakes.

Everyone makes mistakes. You can make a game of it - try to make one on purpose and laugh about it! Mistakes are part of the learning process.

#### 2. Plan ahead and schedule.

Plan your practice time and put it on the calendar. Having a dedicated time allows for anticipation and reduces stress when you are busy.

#### 3. Older sibling mentors.

Siblings can enjoy practicing together. If they are amenable to the idea, the older one can be an excellent practice partner or "junior teacher".

#### 4. Watch Youtube.

Students can become self-evaluating and self-correcting by watching good quality videos of their Suzuki pieces on Youtube.

#### 5. Use the Sesame Street idea.

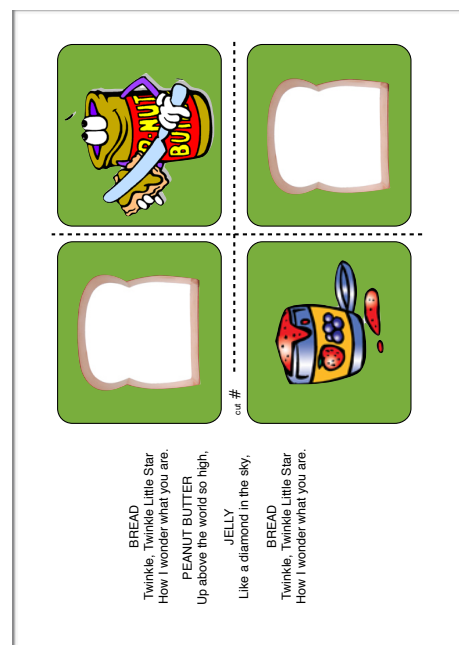
The Sesame Street television series uses short, repetitive segments to present concepts. When you practice, especially with very young children, break up the routine by making a list of very small tasks, mix them up and repeat them multiple times during your practice session.

### Simplifying the process of practicing... easier said than done?

What a great group of parents you are!

I think the parent talk last month was more informative for me that it was for everyone else! You all shared such insightful and practical ideas of how you work out your practice challenges at home.

In case you missed last month's parent session, here is a recap of some of the ideas shared by some really hard-working parents.



print your own twinkle sandwich at [www.dolcemusicstudio.com/resources](http://www.dolcemusicstudio.com/resources)

## Suzuki Philosophy

### The Seven Concepts of the Suzuki Philosophy, by Danette Schuh

Part Three in a seven part series exploring the Suzuki Philosophy in depth.

The Seven concepts, 1. Every child can learn, 2. Ability develops early, 3. Environment nurtures growth, 4. Children learn from one another, 5. Success breeds success, 6. Parental involvement is critical, 7. Encouragement is essential.

**Environment nurtures growth.** We are products of our environment. Suzuki often said, "Man is the Son of his Environment." We react to our surroundings, whether they have a positive or negative effect. A rich, positive, stimulating environment will encourage the growth and development of a child. If the positive qualities include comfort, calm, warmth and love, the child will be nurtured and their ability development will be superior in breadth and depth. Parents, you can create this rich learning environment for your child. Listen to beautiful music every day. Play your Suzuki CD's in the car and at home. Download them on iTunes and listen on a phone or ipod. Take your child to concerts, have books and art supplies readily available and within your child's reach at home. Create a calm and quiet practice space for good focus. Model the example of being a life-long learner and enjoy the benefits!