

Music Together®

West Essex Music Together



Enroll your
child today!

Join us for more musical fun this semester!
Caldwell, Verona, West Orange

westessexmusictogether.com • westessexmt@gmail.com • (973) 498-8830

Each Semester Includes

- Weekly 45-minute classes with engaging activities you can do all week long
- 2 CDs, plus digital song downloads, and an illustrated songbook
- Digital resources, including the Family Music Zone™ and the *Hello Everybody* app to access your music from anywhere
- Subscription to the Music Together® international family newsletter and other educational materials to help you understand and enhance your child's music development

You might be wondering...

Why aren't there classes for specific age groups?

Classes with children of different ages have intellectual and social benefits for both younger and older children. In fact, it's the learning environment recommended by many early childhood researchers. Older children learn empathy and awareness of others, while developing leadership qualities and gaining self-confidence. Younger children learn by imitating the older ones and often show more complex behaviors earlier than usual. Even babies benefit by being in an environment that gives them lots of opportunities to observe the behavior of children of varying ages. Plus, it allows everyone—siblings, parents, grandparents, caregivers—to share in the musical experience together!

Why is the teacher trying to get me and the other parents to sing? I'm not a great singer!

You might be surprised to hear that you are your child's most important music teacher right now—and it doesn't matter whether or not you consider yourself musical. Young children develop dispositions for certain behaviors—including learning to love music—by observing and imitating their loved ones. Simply by participating enthusiastically during class and playing with the ideas at home, you'll give your children the modeling they need to learn to love to make music.

Why didn't my child participate in class?

Children's responses depend on their most dominant learning style and temperament as well as their age and developmental level. Some might follow the teacher right away. Others stay close to Mom or Dad, observing and listening. Some might crawl or toddle around; others are stimulated by the music and respond more actively, running, jumping, or dancing. All are perfectly natural responses to the new, musically rich environment. Throughout the semester, your teacher will help you tune in to how your child learns best so you can support their music development in class and at home. Feel free to ask if you have questions!

Why did the teacher say it was OK for my child to not sit in the circle during class?

At Music Together, children are never required to sit in the circle or expected to conform to an adult's idea of participation. We know that children learn differently from adults. They learn instinctively and constantly, through observation, interactions with adults and older children, and through imitation, play, and, especially, movement. One hallmark of Music Together is the insight that children will naturally develop music ability simply when they are immersed in a community of families all making music.

