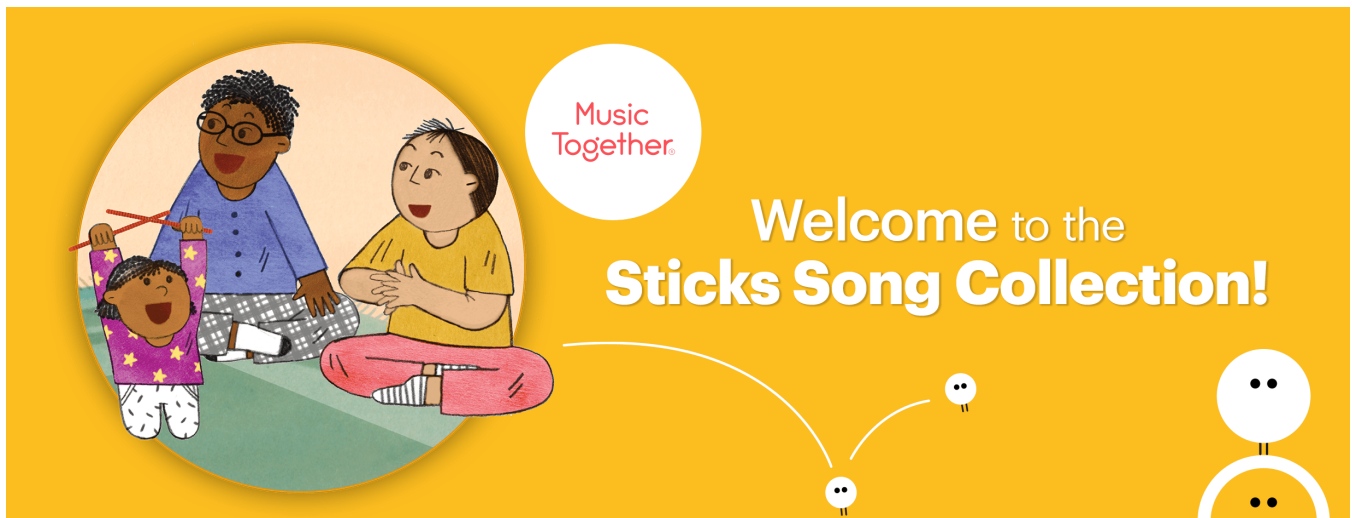


Mr. Mark's Music Together



Welcome the Winter Session, featuring the Sticks Song Collection.

You've made a great choice to spend time making music with your child. These early childhood music experiences will provide immediate pleasure and life-long benefits. Music Together is one of the oldest and most thoroughly researched and deeply rooted music programs for young children.

This is the only paper newsletter you will get from me but I will communicate with you outside of class via email from mark@mrmarksmusictogether.com. (I also send information through *Constant Contact* – FYI.) I have useful, thought-provoking insights from my 16+ years of experience with young children that I share. So when you see an email from me, grab a cup of coffee or tea, get comfy, and enjoy my musings.

Make Up Classes. The Winter session is 10 weeks and Mr. Mark wants to see you at 10 classes! If you ever can't make class, go to mrmarksmusictogether.com and under the section "Current Families" sign up for a **make-up class**.

Enclosed is a book (with all the lyrics and engaging graphics!) and a CD of the music we will use in class. In addition, you can download/stream your music and access exclusive content from the *Family Music Zone* or *Hello Everybody* app. Online, visit www.musictogether.com/account (create an account or log in) and enter the **Family Music Code** that is printed on the inside cover of your songbook. You will be able to enjoy the music everywhere! *Enjoying the songs from our classes with your child during the rest of the week is crucial for your child benefiting from our classes together.*

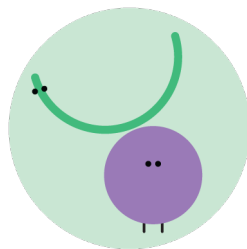


Let's clean our instruments and stay healthy! We like “clean” instruments in class, so if your child puts an instrument in his or her mouth (which is okay from a developmental point of view), please spray it before it gets put away, with the alcohol that Mr. Mark has in the room. There is also hand sanitizer in the class for your family's use. And if you or your child is not well (it happens, *sigh*), please consider a make-up class on another day.

“What can I do to enhance my child's musical ability?” Honestly, the best thing you can do now at your child's age is to join me in singing, playing instruments and dancing in class. When your child sees you doing these things s/he will want to do them, too. Just know, his or her wanting to make music doesn't always reveal itself to adults immediately. Keep calm and shake that tambourine – or do whatever activity is being offered. Modeling, instead of directing, takes patience and really pays off!

You are in the company of some very cool families, who want the best for their children, as you do for yours. I have seen friendships form as families decide to get together outside of class. Snacks (or ski dates) after class are tons of fun, as are other playdates throughout the week. And your children will already have something in common – music they know!

I love hearing about what your child does between classes. I often hear that children who are silent in class sing constantly as the CD plays in the car or at home. Tell me what your child has been up to with the songs and with music-making at home. I am always ready to improve our class experience, so suggestions (and compliments and criticisms) are always welcome.



This paper contains important information useful for families enrolled in a Music Class.
A copy of this is also on-line at mrmarksmusictogether.com/familyinfo