

Music and Me Evaluation Report

for Stirling Council

May 2014

Music and Me Nursery Resource: Staff Evaluation: (5 completed forms collated)

We are currently evaluating the "Music and Me" nursery resource pack and would appreciate your feedback on the resource, and your experience of using it with the children. This information is an important part of our report to the YMI, and will have a bearing on future funding for this work.

Please complete the form below and return it as soon as possible :

By email (preferred): David Trouton dwttrouton@btinternet.com or

By post: David Trouton, Tron Cottage, The Wynd, Gifford, East Lothian EH41 4QT

THANK YOU!

Class Teacher/ staff member: (various)

Nursery: (5 nurseries returned completed forms)

1) ABOUT YOUR CLASS

Number of children in your class/s:

Ante preschool /Preschool__14/6; 20/31; 10/24; 63(total); 24(total)

How often have you been using the Music and Me resource material?

More than once a week **x1** Once a week **x3** On a few occasions but not every **week x1** I haven't used the resource yet_____

2) ABOUT THE RESOURCE

(Please have a copy of the Music and Me to hand when answering these questions)

Which activities have you used with your class/group

Warm-up games	__x4
Active Listening Games	__x4
Group Music-making	__x4
Singing	__x5
Music and Movement	__x5
Sound Stories	__x4
Music for Relaxation	_ x3

Do you use the Music and Me CD with your class/group

Often **x2** Occasionally **x2** I haven't used it yet **x1**

Do you reference the Curriculum for Excellence learning outcomes section in the Music and Me book?

Often **x2** Occasionally **x3** I haven't used it yet

The resource aims to offer a selection of music games and activities that are accessible for all nursery teachers, regardless of their musical expertise.

Please rate your level of confidence in delivering the following aspects of Music and Me by numbering on a scale of 1 – 5 where 1 is Not Confident and 5 is Very Confident (Please circle your answer):

	Not confident -----Very confident				
Warm-up games	1	2	3	4 (x1)	5 (x3)
Active Listening games	1	2	3 (x1)	4	5 (x4)
Group Music-making	1	2	3 (x1)	4 (x2)	5 (x2)
Singing	1	2	3	4 (x1)	5 (x4)
Music and Movement	1	2	3 (x1)	4 (x1)	5 (x3)
Sound Stories	1	2 (x1)	3 (x1)	4 (x2)	5 (x1)
Music for Relaxation	1	2	3	4 (x2)	5 (x2)

Please rate the level of effectiveness as a means of developing the following skills by numbering on a scale of 1 – 5 where 1 is Not effective and 5 is Very Effective (Please circle your answer):

	Not effective -----Very effective				
Active Listening	1	2	3	4 (x1)	5 (x4)
Concentration	1	2	3	4 (x1)	5 (x4)
Sharing	1	2	3	4 (x3)	5 (x2)
Turn-taking	1	2	3	4 (x2)	5 (x3)
Carrying out instructions	1	2	3	4 (x2)	5 (x3)
Leading and following	1	2	3 (x1)	4 (x3)	5 (x1)
Co-operation and collaboration	1	2	3 (x1)	4 (x2)	5 (x2)
Self-expression	1	2	3 (x1)	4 (x1)	5 (x3)
Emotional Literacy	1	2	3 (x1)	4 (x1)	5 (x3)

How many of the class appeared stimulated and engaged by the resource material (Please circle your answer)?

100% of class (x1)

More than 50% of class

More than 75% of class (x4)

Less than 50% of class _____

3) YOUR COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS

We value your expertise as a Nursery specialist and would welcome your comments and opinions as part of our evaluation:

1) Do you see the music activities having an impact on the pupils? If so, in what way?

- This resource has been good for improving listening skills and levels of concentration.
- The need to watch and listen for instructions has improved through using the warm up games and the signals to start and stop playing music together.
- Children actively participated in these musical activities. Children were fully engaged and enjoyed the experience. Children were listening well when visual prompts were used and seemed to know instinctively when to join in.
- The simple approach to sounds and emotions seemed to click with the children. This encouraged some children who were not as confident to express themselves through music.
- All of the children who have experienced the music and me activities have participated most enthusiastically. The children quickly established who Dave was and were always eager and excited to see him. Many of the children shared their experiences with their families at home in particular the train journey. The children still continue to watch Dave on the nursery television, which displays images of experiences that have happened within the nursery and would recall and reflect what was happening.
- The children are further developing an understanding of rhythm and will confidently explore the musical instruments more frequently and spontaneously. We will continue to implement the wide variety of experiences detailed in the accompanying resource pack and it is anticipated the children will continue to progress in many of the learning skills identified.
- Listening skills, following instructions, social interaction, confidence.
- It helped some of our children settling in, children feel relaxed and make friends.
- The children enjoy visitors to the nursery particularly males as some children have very little contact with males and it is good experience for them to learn to trust other adults and enjoy their company.
- When reviewing with the children their thoughts on this experience the feedback was very positive and we were amazed how much the children could remember of it.
- Yes, children are more aware of pitch, rhythm and beat.
- This project helps the children to make sense of their bodies by trying out different activities.
- The warm up is particularly a favourite and the children are becoming more aware of the need for relaxation.

2) Music and Me is designed to be a cross-curricular package. Can you describe any ways you have used the ideas in the resource to introduce or develop other aspects of the curriculum?

- The children are now very interested in making up their own songs and are confident to try and put words to music learning about rhyming words.
- Helped with early literacy, sounds and emotions. Also with socialising, sharing, turn taking and coordination.
- The music C.D. has further promoted the children's role play imagination when using the large wooden construction blocks. The children use the music and pretend play on the blocks creating trains to go on adventurous journeys.
- We will be establishing an emotions group to further promote children health and well being. The music resource will be a new provocation to use when discussing and developing an awareness of feelings.
- We will also use the music resource within our expressive arts area. Painting and drawing to music. This is to further support children in expressing their inner thoughts whilst listening to the music and graphically representing their ideas.
- Painting to different styles of music.
- Reading stories and discussing friendships.
- Children accessing instruments and conducting their own rhyme times.
- Better concentration and listening being observed in a variety of situations e.g. group times and at consultation.
- We use the resource as a 'learning group' type experience making weekly time to explore various parts of the programme. We have adapted it to suit our plans and other songs.
- Children have made their own instruments bringing in expressive arts, we have used it to tell stories – bring in literacy. We use warm up/ cool down to link in with health and well being.

3) Do you have any further comments or suggestions on how the Music and Me resource could be improved?

- Maybe a follow up CD with more action and movement songs. I supplemented the ones on the CD with songs from the Class Moves CD resource we had in Nursery but had not used before.
- More ideas on sound stories as these were well received. Possibly a recording of some different types of music (piano or guitar) to use for listening activities.
- Shorter sessions are more helpful for our age and stage as concentration becomes more difficult for some children the longer the session is.
- We would like to have David Trouton back to Pre-school to continue to develop these programmes as I have found it very interesting and useful to be the observer and having the opportunity to record the children's reactions and comments.
- My son came into the nursery on several occasions and the sessions where he played guitar were much better than using a CD, especially the sounds for a train journey... Maybe I just need to learn to play the guitar!!
- The children and staff have greatly benefited from Dave's expertise . It has supported staff in building their confidence when engaging in musical experiences and has given many interesting as well as a wide variety of ideas to progress and implement into practice.
- The resource is very well indexed and explained, which is further supported with links to the Curriculum for Excellence, the musical terms and the Why music? section is particularly informative and interesting.
- There could be a section relating to how families can participate in musical experiences at home. The detailed section in Why Music? could be adapted to inform families of the benefits and the purpose.
- Excellent resources and musical instruments.
- We would love to have you or another musician more regularly as nothing beats the real experience of seeing the instruments being played first hand.
- The children are still recalling the songs/ stories David played when he visited through the documentation displayed.
- All staff agree the resource is super and we will continue to use it.

Thank you for completing this form.