

# A reading course for Suzuki Piano students



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## Abstract

Upon reflection from having taught piano lessons for years, I feel strongly that the Suzuki concept provides the most natural approach to teaching. Students learn to play by listening, imitating, and continually reviewing previously learned material. Every possible effort is made to adapt to the playing of the instrument the learning process of one's native spoken language, including active involvement of the parents. This is generally referred to as the "mother tongue" approach. Suzuki students who respond well to the Suzuki approach often display extraordinary advancement in musical imagination, expressive and communicative power, and technical ability. Children are taught to read and write only after they have gained considerable command of their spoken language. Likewise, in the Suzuki approach, the traditional practice of teaching beginning students to read music is postponed until much later, when the student has already acquired a relatively high level of performance skills. While the fundamental concept is sound, questions about when to introduce reading and what methods to use remain. A preponderance of Suzuki piano teachers concur that reading should only be taught when a student can play with polished refinement all the pieces in volume one of the Suzuki Piano School. At this point, in the absence of specific materials, teachers invariably adopt one or more of the traditional beginning piano courses. For instance, Madam Kataoka, the co-author of the Suzuki Piano School, advocates Ernest Van de Velde's Method Rose, a dated method book published in 1947. Alternatively, Bigler and Lloyd-Watts, leading Suzuki piano teachers and co-authors of *Studying Suzuki Piano: More than Music*, recommend Frances Clark's Music Tree.

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The Suzuki Piano School New International Edition Piano Book and CD is a piano method book designed to be used by students from different countries. It comes in different languages such as German, Spanish and French. It also comes with a recorded CD performed by recording artist Seizo Azuma. It is fun and engaging for both students and teachers, and if you do not wish to do a lot of music reading, this is the piano method book for you. The lessons will help you expand your creativity and knowledge base of different piano songs. You will also be able to better your skills, understanding, and creativeness. To ask other readers questions about *Studying Suzuki Piano -- More Than Music*, please sign up. Be the first to ask a question about *Studying Suzuki Piano -- More Than Music*. Lists with This Book. This book is not yet featured on Listopia. There are chapters on how to structure lessons, motivate students, first lessons

and note reading. There are also notes on each Suzuki piano piece in each Suzuki book. I took piano lessons for many years as a child, but started at an older age and did not use the Suzuki method. The Suzuki method appeals to me because children can learn at a younger age. This book is a great reference guide for the Suzuki philosophy and teaching methods. I found it more useful if you are using the book to teach.