

Sandpoint Stake Music Newsletter

February 2015

Last fall, the General Auxiliary Training focused on Teaching in the Savior's way. The Savior's method applies to teaching music just as much as teaching Sharing Time or teaching classes. In all cases, it is the CHILDREN that we are teaching, not just a subject.

Think of what you know of the Savior. Can you see Him taking time



to bless the children individually? You can see that He loved them and knew who they were. Do you know and love each child?

He prepared Himself to teach by spending time alone in prayer and fasting. Should you not prepare in like manner?

He used scriptures and taught the people to use scriptures to find answers for themselves and recognize the truth through the Spirit. Children need to be shown

and given lots of opportunities to practice going to the scriptures and identifying the Spirit.

He shared simple stories, parables, and real-life examples that the people could understand. Can you share short experiences to help the children understand the meaning of words and doctrine in the song?

He asked questions that caused the people to think and feel deeply. Because they knew He loved them, they felt safe sharing thoughts and personal feelings. Every child needs to feel valued and safe in Primary.

He invited His disciples to testify of truth, to act in faith, and to serve others. As they did, they were strengthened. Can you invite the children to act on what they learn in a song?

This is your calling as Music Leader - to teach in the Savior's way.

BEGIN NOW:

Now is a good time to start thinking about how to present the monthly theme songs during the Primary Sacrament Meeting program.



Of course, it's too early to assign parts to the children or even mention the program, but the variations are also a fun way to practice.

Tips are in the 2015 Music Leader's packet. Please review it now to help you start preparing.

NEW MUSIC PAGE:

The Music page at lds.org has changed. This is a good time to take a look and use the great resources available.

See your Primary President for the new page of tips the 2015 Music Leader's packet.

From lds.org, click **Resources**. Select **Primary**. Choose **Music** from left sidebar.



FEBRUARY TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

THEME SONG:

He sent His Son p 34

(See p 5 of the OST for ideas. Count, stand/sit, or two groups)

PRACTICE SONGS:

Be prepared to support the Primary Presidency during their Sharing Time presentation with the following optional songs, as suggested in the Outline for Sharing Time (OST) by week. These are also good songs for Music Time because they support the monthly theme. Sing a variety of songs each week. Use the index to find other songs that go along with the weekly theme.

He sent His Son p 34 OST week 1 (Feb theme)

To Think About Jesus p 71 OST week 1

Show pictures of the life of Jesus Christ, from birth to resurrection. Have the Sunbeams stand every time you sing Jesus or He.

The Third Article of Faith p 123 week 2 & 3 theme

Sing the first line. Stop and show pictures of Christ in Gethsemane, on the cross, and resurrected. Explain that we can return to Heavenly Father because of Jesus.

Sing the first line again, and add the second line, to "saved". Ask what it means to be saved (live with Heavenly Father). Ask who all mankind includes.

Ask the children to listen closely while you sing the final two lines, to find out what we have to do to be saved. Take their answers. Assign three groups to stand and sing a part of the song.

Ask for examples of some of the laws (commandments) and ordinances (baptism, etc) of the gospel. Sing the song together from the beginning.

He Died That We Might Live Again p 65 week 3 & 4 theme

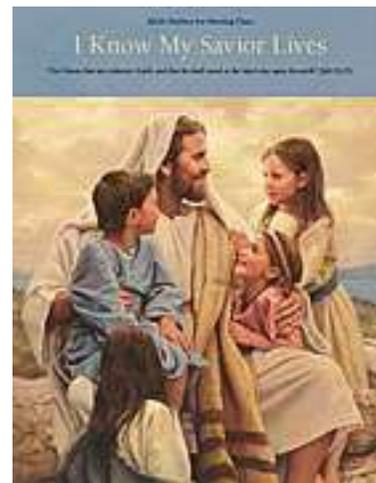
Practice this beautiful, simple song well in advance so you are comfortable with the words and the tune. Make sure your pianist has time to practice and knows you'll be repeating each line twice with the echo.

Sing the song to the children, or use a CD, so they can hear what it's like.

Sing one line at a time and have the children echo it back, with your help.

Ask the children to sing one line at a time with you and have just the teachers echo it back.

You might display pictures of the crucifixion and resurrection.



WINTER POPCORN:

Recently I learned new words to the popular song, "Popcorn Popping". The children absolutely loved it. I found two versions online (below).

This is also a great opportunity to remind the children that Heavenly Father and Jesus gave us the snow and trees.

*I looked out the window and
what did I see? Snow has
covered my Apricot Tree!
Winter has brought me such a
nice surprise. Snow is falling
right before my eyes! I can take
an armful and make a Man. I'll
build him up just as fast as I can.
It was a lot of snow, and it
seemed to me! Snow had
covered my Apricot Tree!*

*I looked out the window and
what did I see? Snowflakes
falling on the evergreen trees.
Winter's brought me such a nice
surprise, Snowflakes falling right
before my eyes. I can make a
snowball, I know I can. Three
snowballs make a big snowman.
I know it's really so, And I'm
glad to see, Ice cream sundaes
on the evergreen trees.*

February 2015

Suggested Primary Songs:

Prelude: Children hum or softly sing reverence and practice songs as classes come in.

SHARING TIME SONGS:

Reverence: I Know That My Savior Loves Me p 28-29 OST
He sent His Son p 34
I Will Follow God's Plan p 164



Birthday: Your Happy Birthday p 283
Happy, Happy Birthday p 284

Visitors: Hello p 260
Hello, Friends! P 254

Sharing Time Presentation: (These are also good songs for Music Time as they support the themes):

He sent His Son p 34 OST week 1 (theme)

To Think About Jesus p 71 OST week 1 (pictures of Jesus)

SINGING TIME SONGS:

Wiggle: Briefly highlight the doctrine as you introduce wiggle songs.

If You're Happy & you know it p 266 Heavenly Father wants us to be happy
Popcorn p 242 Who gave us trees & snow?
If You Chance to Meet a Frown p 267 How do we feel when we smile?
Two Little Eyes p 268 Heavenly Father/Jesus have eyes

THEME: He sent His Son p 34 At least once every week
(See p 5 of the OST for ideas. Count, stand/sit, or two groups)

Practice: Practice Sharing Time Songs EARLY so children will be familiar with songs

Use the index to find other songs to go along with the weekly theme such as:

The Third Article of Faith p 123 Week 2 & 3 theme
He Died That We Might Live Again p 65 Week 3 & 4 theme

****More ideas are in the monthly music newsletter.****