



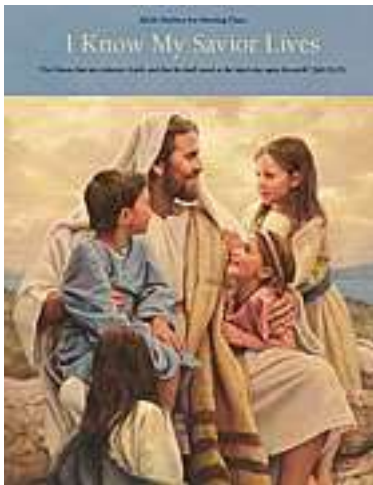
Sandpoint Stake Music Newsletter

January 2015

Hello Music Leaders,

Visiting each Primary during fall conferences was a great time for me to learn from you and to be taught by the Spirit. I'll continue to share some of these experiences in the music newsletter.

This coming year, there is a new timetable. As ward and branch conferences will be monthly, I'd like to include examples from the Primary that was visited in the previous month to benefit us all. Some months may feature a different method of scheduling songs, while other months may include ideas on how to teach doctrine through music, games, attention activities, participation, and preparing for the sacrament meeting program. I may also point out resources available at lds.org and help you navigate to them.



Take time now to review the Outline for Sharing Time (OST) and use it in your preparation. Pay special attention to page 1, which directs you to "How to Use Music in Primary" on page 26-27, ideas for teachings theme songs on pages 3, 5, 9, and 15, and the new song on page 28-29.

As you browsed through the new 2015 OST, did you notice that most of the songs are familiar ones, even some that were monthly themes last year or the year before? Please don't make the mistake of assuming that because the children know the words, they must understand them. When the words are familiar, this gives you more time to build on the children's understanding of the gospel principles so the Spirit can testify of truth and strengthen their little testimonies.

Please remember your most important teaching resource is the guidance of the Spirit. Prepare, practice, and seek inspiration. Then lead with confidence, explore the gospel meaning of the song, testify of the gospel truths taught, use variety and approved resources, and be flexible enough to follow promptings.

*LeeAnn Kopsa
2nd Counselor
Sandpoint Stake Primary*

HIS LITTLEST ONES

At our November Leadership Meeting, Sister Durfee was prompted to invite Nursery leaders to join Primary Presidencies. Even though it was short notice, several attended and we were reminded that the Lord truly is aware of His little ones and their needs in the Sandpoint Stake.

As music leader, please meet with your Primary Presidency. Prayerfully consider how to reach these little ones through music. Give emphasis to the following:

1. Remember that it is important for the nursery children to sing Primary songs.
2. In January, most Sunbeams aren't ready to join the rest of the Primary for singing time. There will need to be a time of transition.

To help you, I'm attaching the guide from the 2015 music leader packet. If you need a copy of the Nursery CD, please let me know.



JANUARY TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

THEME SONG:

I Know That My Savior Loves Me p 28-29 OST

See p 3 of the OST for more details on using 3 Nephi 17, a picture, and actions to teach the doctrine. This is Sister Durfee's favorite Primary song. The Spirit is so strong whenever it is sung.

PRACTICE SONGS FOR SHARING TIME:

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.

I Am a Child of God p 2 OST week 1,3&4

Ask the Sunbeams to stand and sing the first line of each verse, "I am a Child of God". Have the CTR 5's stand to sing the second lines, the CTR 6's stand to sing the third lines, and the CTR 7's stand to sing the fourth lines. Ask each group a question about one of their lines.

Divide the Senior Primary into three groups, and assign each group one of the following scriptures: Psalms 82:6, Mosiah 4:15, and D&C 14:7. Sing the song together, and have the group stand when they think their assigned scripture matches the verse of the song being sung.

Teach the 4th verse, discussing the meaning. Consider asking how we know his promises are sure, what Celestial glory is, or what it means to endure.

My Heavenly Father Loves Me p 228-29 OST week 3 & 4

Bring items or pictures that represent the blessings in the song. Choose Sunbeams or CTR 5's to hold the items or pictures while the children sing. Bear testimony of how thankful we are for our bodies and the creation of the world, and how these things help us know we are loved.

Thanks to Our Father p 20 OST week 3 & 4

Ask how we can give thanks to Heavenly Father for the gifts He gives us. Have children pick a gift bow and tell how they can be thankful. Discuss such things as prayer, keeping the commandments, following His Son, serving each other, being kind, obeying our parents, etc.

I Feel My Savior's Love p 74-75 OST week 3 & 4

Pass around a bean bag or other soft object as you sing. Stop the music randomly and let the child holding the bean bag tell one specific way they can feel the love of the Savior.



REVERENT WAIT

While the prelude is playing or during the 10 minute break between classes and Sharing Time, sing familiar reverent songs with the children.

To get the children's attention and increase participation, choose a child who is participating to come to the front to be the example and look for others who are singing.

After a couple of minutes, ask the example child to choose another child who is singing to come up front. Continue the rotation until the regular meeting begins.

AAH, OOH, HUMMM

Hum instead of singing during the prelude or 10 minute break to engage the children and help with reverence while they wait for other classes.

Make simple signs to signal which type of humming the children should do. Switch signs several times during a song, so the children have to be watching to know what to do.

Ask the pianist to play the theme song and other reverent songs the children are familiar with.