

Why Start a Program?

1. It's fun!
2. Establish habit of coming to a weekly music experience.
3. Establish relationships with kids and parents
 - a. develop pool of choir moms and volunteer leaders
 - b. possible adult choir recruits
4. Many families come back to church with the birth of a child – meet Contemporaries

Set-up of Program

1. Semesters or sessions 6-12 weeks
2. God's Children Sing – 4 CD's buy one per year (or semester)
3. \$4-5 per class plus 1X material fee. 2nd child half price
4. 12-15 in class knowing some will be absent except for 1st and last class
5. 1 parent/caregiver per child is ideal
6. Times in conjunction with church or local pre-school or during older children's choir time. Sun evening? 30-40 minutes in length
7. Try to do on the nursery hall – familiarity with nursery area
8. Try to have only age appropriate children in class – older children on special days
Consider a sibling class. Welcome grandparents, etc. to class except for the first and last class of each session (since everybody will be there)
9. Advertise in church bulletin, web site, print ads. Keep a master email list
Ask at beginning of year if people want to opt out of list.
10. Use a cleared room, put hooks on walls. No toys, snacks or sippy cups
11. Charge for all classes. Pay other teachers. Use church staff fees for materials and training.

Structure of Class

1. Hello song
2. Familiar songs (Itsy Bitsy Spider, Wheels on the Bus, etc.)
3. Bouncing Song
4. Another lively song
5. Poem
6. Seasonal songs
7. Rhythm instrument songs
8. put instruments away and stand
9. 3 standing songs – last one leads to floor
10. Optional second manipulatives song
11. Book
12. Transition lively song 1.
13. Favorite class cong
14. Rocking song (lights out)
15. Good-bye song

About CD's

Pros

1. Good for exposure to different instruments and styles
2. Enable movement and verbal instruction
3. Allow teacher to breathe while actively moving

Cons

1. In our culture people feel free to talk if CD is playing
2. Teacher can develop too much reliance on CD's
3. If unwilling or unable to use MP3 technology can take too much time to change CD's.