

Exploring Factors Affecting the Development of Children's Interest in Piano

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Abstract. Children's piano music lessons are well-liked in learning because they make use of children's minds, which are better able to acquire new information quickly. The purpose of this study is to identify and analyze the factors that influence children's interest in learning the piano, taking into account their family environment, the teaching methods and approaches used by their teachers, and their own motivations. It takes time, consideration, and a good outlook to encourage kids to study the piano. The correct time, a musical environment, and tutors can all help make learning the piano enjoyable. Children can experience the rhythm and emotion of music via their bodies when they are exposed to percussion instruments and activities. It aims to develop children's musical abilities, enhance instructors' teaching strategies, foster a positive musical environment for children, and encourage children to understand the concepts of piano music, so promoting children's intellectual and emotional learning.

Keywords: Piano education; Children; Interest; Piano.

1. Introduction

The quality of life and standard of living of the populace have recently improved as a result of the nation's rapid development. They have significant material requirements, but they also need to pursue a few spiritual goals in their everyday lives. As a result, many parents encourage their kids to learn the piano in order to foster their overall growth, increase their musical literacy, and other benefits. Children are known for their energy and lack of focus [1]. Piano music, on the other hand, is distinguished by lovely melodies and calming meditation, which is extremely important for kids' healthy development. The purpose of this research is to identify the influences from the family environment, teachers, and the children themselves and to understand how and why these elements affect children's desire in learning the piano. Teachers can create engaging teaching strategies and sessions to pique students' interest and excitement for learning by researching the aspects that affect the growth of children's interest in the piano. By adjusting the various elements, it will be possible to increase student engagement and teaching efficacy, which will result in enhanced educational outcomes. Children are more inclined to volunteer their time and effort when they are engaged, which improves learning results. Due to their diverse personalities, upbringings, and life experiences, each child may have various interests depending on a variety of reasons. Understanding these elements can aid instructors in providing more tailored instruction and coaching to fit the requirements and interests of each child in terms of learning. Children may be able to express their feelings and develop their creativity through piano lessons. Music education may enhance children's mental health by fostering curiosity, lowering anxiety and stress levels, and boosting self-assurance and self-esteem. In addition to enhancing the quality of music education, researching the elements that influence young students' interest in the piano can also help them grow more broadly and lead to greater success in other academic areas. Additionally, the focus of piano instruction should be on helping kids learn music effectively, developing their musical skills, and fostering their passion in the instrument. Since interest and learning are interconnected and grow together, using the piano to purify children's thinking and improve their musical abilities can spark children's interest in learning.

2. Exploring Factors Affecting the Development of Children's Interest in Piano

2.1. Family Environment

In music teaching, the home environment is a factor that influences the development of children's interest in piano. Because the family environment is the first place where children grow up, whether in the classroom of learning piano or in life. This home space is a "special place" for children [2]. In this special place must be inseparable from the child's parents. Parents act as their first teachers of their children. By creating a favorable musical environment and learning atmosphere for their children, parents can better lay the foundation for their children's piano learning.

Parental support plays an important influence in piano education. First of all, parents give their children influencing factors in motivation and encouragement. Many children learn piano under the guidance of their parents, in other words, children learn piano for the sake of their parents. If parents do not give timely recognition, children will think that have not been recognized by their parents, and their learning will not be satisfied. In the long run, children will lose their interest in piano learning. In children's piano learning, their parents' affirmation affects their motivation to learn piano. Therefore, parental encouragement affects children's motivation to learn. Secondly, parents correctly guide their children to overcome the impact of motivation. Many children will be nervous in the first lesson and be afraid for the teacher, in this case, parents give positive encouragement influences to the child, the children will have a good influence on their piano skills instead of negative. The third influence comes from parents giving their children more patience. Most parents treat their children with patience but lose patience when their children repeatedly make mistakes and do not change them. Learning piano is a long process, so don't be in a hurry to ask child to achieve results quickly [3]. Parents should understand the complexity of piano learning and be more understanding, tolerant and patient with their children. Children are more likely to develop a real passion for playing the piano if their parents show the impact of their interest in music. Learning new skills can sometimes be frustrating and lead to feelings of self-doubt. Parental influence provides emotional support and helps children cope with challenges and setbacks [4]. Parents give their children support by adjusting goals and recognizing differences. Every child differs in the strengths and weaknesses of their ability to learn the piano. Some children are naturally gifted at the piano, while others are born with a lack of pentatonic ability. Parents need to recognize the conditions for success in the art of piano, the specific abilities of their children to learn the piano and guide them correctly. Let child fall in love with music and the piano.

Psychologists have shown after research that interest can effectively influence children's motivation and mobilize their enthusiasm for learning, so interest is very important. Influence the child's mental activity and lead them to enjoy the instrument [5]. Create a good musical atmosphere influence, parents can play more elegant and beautiful piano music or piano children's songs or go to the concert hall to listen to music, so that children in the subtle effect of habit, enhance the concentration on music and potential, and develop good habits of young children.

2.2. Teachers' Influence on Developing Children's Interest in Music

Piano learning is a long process. During the learning process, the teacher must recognize his or her role, importance and role in children's piano learning, and correctly influence the understanding of children's needs and abilities in all areas. Taking happy piano learning as the starting point and encouraging and praising as the main influences, the teacher should make the children healthy, relaxed, and happy in the long process of piano learning [6]. Throughout the piano learning process, teachers find ways to keep children interested in piano learning and achieve the desired results. Teachers are influential in fostering children's interest in music and instructing them on how to proceed.

First of all, music teachers are the stimulators of the influence of children's interest in piano learning. Qualified music teachers should have good professional knowledge of piano and pedagogy. Qualified music teachers should have good professional knowledge of piano and pedagogy and be

able to carry out targeted teaching according to the children's personality characteristics, to increase the children's interest in learning the piano, so as to strengthen their motivation to learn the piano [7].

Secondly, teachers use vivid images to influence children's attention. Children are more likely to accept and assimilate explanations that are more vivid, so the teacher can make the content of the lesson more vivid. If a child's fingertips don't stand up and are always folded [8], the teacher can draw on the child's book two ways to show the child which is correct and remind the child to pay attention to it when practicing the piano. In addition to the use of pictures to assist in teaching, vivid and visual explanations make children more interested in learning the piano.

Thirdly, the implementation of rewards and punishments to improve the impact of children's interest in piano learning. A lot of teaching practice shows that music teachers praise their students in the process of piano teaching [9], which is conducive to maintaining children's interest in piano learning, enhancing their initiative and enthusiasm in piano learning, and letting children have more curiosity and desire for exploration in piano learning. Also, appropriate praise also helps to enhance children's self-efficacy in learning to play the piano and helps to influence children to dare to challenge and enjoy themselves when faced with new tasks assigned by the teacher. Rewards can be tangible and intangible. For example, verbal encouragement, using praise words from the heart to encourage child. Students showing progress, practicing on the right track and helping them achieve their goals. Verbal praise, encouragement given to students who make progress in the learning process. Encouragement from the teacher in the eyes of the child is equivalent to recognition from the teacher and will stimulate their interest in piano learning. Tangible encouragement, which refers to material encouragement, a small red flower or a small sticker. This form visually tells children that are capable of learning and can be successful. When a student accomplishes a learning goal in class, such as finishing a book, the encouragement is rewarded with a little red flower. This is especially effective when used in moderation, as the number of pinkies accumulated over time can be redeemed for a larger reward.

Lastly, teachers can stimulate the influence of children's interest in learning piano by giving them the flexibility to imitate. Imitation is a child's natural instinct, and it can make piano education fun. As children grow up, they imitate the behavior, speech, and actions of adults, accompanied by a great deal of thinking and absorbing of relevant information. As early as 1978, psychologist Andrew Meltzoff found that children who are new to the world of music are more likely to be able to imitate the behavior and speech of adults [10]. One type of imitation is when the teacher shows the child technique imitation [11], rhythmic changes, hand rise and fall, high finger lifts, legato, skipping, triplets, etc. The other type of imitation is emotional imitation of influence, which refers to imitating the teacher's emotional treatment and expression of the piece.

2.3. Child's Own Reasons

Influence from children themselves. Since children have a harder time controlling themselves in learning, most of them have a hard time controlling their attention. They will behave negatively towards the teacher's requests, only wanting to play what they know, and in severe cases, even playing indiscriminately.

Some spoiled children start to play and cry, and parents who spoil their children will think that my child is not suitable to play the piano or that their child has no musical talent. There are children with poor memory skills. One is that children are too young to memorize new but boring things. The other is that children do not concentrate and directly take what the teacher says as a whisper.

The children themselves need to be motivated to learn and to be involved in the classroom on their own initiative. The best way to learn piano is for children to love music, only if they have a love and interest in piano can they be inspired to overcome difficulties and make progress in the process of learning. In the lesson, children need to actively cooperate with the teacher and listen attentively. After the lesson, children need to practice actively and not passively wait for their parents to urge them to do so. The reason that children are young and lack self-control, this is a great opportunity to develop perseverance. In the process of learning the piano, parents can encourage their children and

other children to exchange more interesting things about practicing the piano, because children appreciate each other and observe and learn from each other will also help children's learning to improve.

Piano grading is an important factor in the development of children's interest in piano. First of all, participation in piano grading exams puts various pressures on children. Especially when they are subjected to peer pressure to compare themselves with one another and their peers [12]. When other students are involved in piano grading, children feel the need to measure and compete with their progress. This can lead to stress and anxiety over performing better than others. Secondly, the fear of failure is faced. They worry about not achieving a certain grade or not performing well enough, especially if their peers are successful. Third, the pressure to perform better than their peers can indirectly affect parents' expectations of their children. If most parents urge their children to take piano exams, a small percentage of parents will feel the need to do the same for their children, even if it is not in line with their interests or abilities. Finally, invisible stress and anxiety. The pressure to perform well in piano scoring due to peer influence may lead to increased stress and anxiety [13]. Fear of disappointing their peers, parents, or themselves may damage their mood. In children who feel overwhelmed by the pursuit of excellence, but pressure. Then the combination of academic responsibilities, extracurricular activities and piano grading may lead to burnout. From there, the child may lose interest in playing the piano altogether because the pressure outweighs their true enjoyment of music [14]. The motivation to take piano exams is a good influence, but decisions need to be chosen that match child's passions and abilities, rather than just succumbing to peer and parent-to-peer pressure. Parents and teachers need to help children cope more effectively with these pressures by encouraging healthy attitudes towards learning, growth and personal development down the line.

3. Countermeasure on How to Cultivate Children's Interest in Piano Learning

3.1. Cultivate Children's Interest in Piano Learning

Developing interest in children's piano learning requires patience, understanding and a positive approach. They can use a few of these methods: First, choose the right time. Don't force children to learn but wait for them to develop an interest in music on their own [15]. This is because it makes more sense to start piano learning when children themselves show interest or curiosity. Second, cultivate a musical atmosphere. Parents can play music at home to let children feel the beauty of music. Various types of music can be played to make children interested in the diversity of music. Third, the teacher makes learning fun. Teachers teach about piano in fun ways, such as using picture books, games, or musical stories. Make the learning process fun, not just serious practice. Lastly, keep the pressure moderate. Avoid putting too much pressure on child after overemphasizing grades and competitions. Learning should be a positive and fun process, not just a pursuit of grades.

Above all, respect child's interests and wishes and do not turn piano learning into a chore. By creating a positive learning environment, providing fun ways to learn, and demonstrating recognition of child's efforts, parents and teachers help them develop a lasting interest in piano learning.

3.2. Cultivate Children's Interest in Music

Cultivating children's interest in music requires the creation of a positive, fun learning environment that stimulates their curiosity and enthusiasm. They can use the following methods: First, parents give their children early exposure. Exposure to music begins at an early age, through listening to music, singing or simple percussion instruments. This helps to develop their sense of and interest in music. Second, exposure to a diversity of musical experiences. Parents or teachers introduce children to various types of music [16], including different musical styles, cultural backgrounds and periods. This helps to expand their musical horizons. For example, some interesting music games, such as music riddles and music memory games, allow children to learn the basics of music through play. Thirdly, adding movements, dances or gestures to music allows children to feel the rhythm and emotion of music through their bodies. Children can also be given simple musical instruments to try

playing themselves. Percussion instruments and simple keyboard instruments allow them to experience the joy of creating music. In conclusion, to stimulate children's interest in music and let them enjoy the beauty of music in an enjoyable learning atmosphere cultivating interest takes time and patience, allowing children to develop a passion for music naturally.

4. Conclusion

The goal of the study is to suggest remedies for the elements influencing the growth of young children's enthusiasm in the piano during music instruction. How to make suggestions for preventative actions based on the family context, classroom instruction, and children's needs. A child's interest in piano cannot be developed overnight; it is a long-term learning and practicing process. During the learning process, parents, teachers and children need to influence and communicate with each other. Parents should give their children more support, encouragement, overcome their fears and give more patience. Piano teachers should constantly improve their professionalism and harmonize fun and art in the teaching process, teaching piano playing skills and stimulating students' interest in learning at the same time. Teachers should follow the happy learning teaching method to guide children step by step, and give them vivid images, rewards and more classroom demonstrations to attract their attention. For the children, they need to practice diligently with the guidance of their parents and teachers in order to achieve success in their studies as soon as possible.

Future influences on a child's interest in learning the piano will come from a multitude of sources, such as their experiences, environment, personal preferences, and the ways in which music is presented to them and fostered. Early exposure, individual expression, difficulty and advancement, teamwork and performance, and changing interests are all possible ways to achieve this. Children's interests may alter as they get older. Maintaining their love of music can be done by being accommodating of their shifting tastes and letting them experiment with various instruments or musical genres. The idea is to establish a setting that encourages inquiry, offers chances for exploration, and aids in their child's own musical journey. Their interest in playing the piano might grow into a passion for life if they help them develop a genuine love of music.

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