



WEEK ONE TO WEEK NINE

You and your child should look over the text, *We Sing and Dance*, together. Look at the cover. St. Cecilia is the patroness of music. Read the title page, the names of the authors and the publisher, and the locations of the publisher. Read the Acknowledgements, and the notation by Seton. Read the Table of Contents.

Notice the dedication to all children in honor of the Holy Family. Notice the number of religious songs as well as a few patriotic songs, the lovely religious illustrations, and the quotes from the Bible and from poetry.

This book assumes that your school year starts in September, so it follows the liturgical year starting in September. Please adjust the songs if necessary so that they are taught at the appropriate time of year.

The songs of the first nine weeks will take you through the After Pentecost Songs. Try to sing all the songs at least once during the nine weeks, then go back and sing over the ones you especially like. The songs will be easier to sing if you have a piano, keyboard, harmonica, or some musical instrument to accompany your singing.

Your child will learn some of the songs very easily, since they are especially for children, but do not neglect to teach the good Catholic songs as well. Even if they are not sung well, these are songs that should not be forgotten.

If you do not play an instrument or cannot read music, perhaps you have a friend or relative who can, and who could play or sing on a cassette tape. That way, you and your child could sing along with the tape.

We encourage someone in the family taking music lessons, and then coming home and teaching others in the family. Learning to play a musical instrument is more important than we can say. Studies have shown it improves the learning ability of children. Recent articles in the newspaper say that some schools are now requiring all children to learn music because it brings up the academic achievement scores.

Your child might like to memorize the Angel song which you will find in the music book.

Please give your child a first quarter average grade on the First Quarter Report Form and send it to Seton, or you may submit it online at www.setonhome.org.

Click on My Seton, then log on. Click on Courses, scroll down to Music, then click on View, then scroll down and enter the grade.

SECOND QUARTER

WEEKS TEN TO EIGHTEEN

MAKING MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Along with your singing, you might like to try making some musical instruments.

Directions for these are in books in the music section (780's in Dewey Decimal) in the children's department. Drums can be made from coffee cans with plastic tops; a five gallon cylindrical ice cream carton (the store will give it to you), or whatever. Flowerpot gongs can be made by tying them upside down along a rope and hitting it with a spoon. How about Maracas with beans, rice, or pebbles inside containers (and shake away!). Try different notes with five glasses of water, the glasses the same size but different amounts of water in each glass for different notes (Put the glasses on a terry cloth towel). Tap the glasses with a spoon and play "Mary Had a Little Lamb."