



Fall '03 Song Collection:  
FIDDLE

The Sounds of  
Fall ~ birds  
chirping...  
leaves falling  
...and families  
making music  
together



# MUSIC TOGETHER®

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF FAMILY MUSIC

## The "Music" of Mixed Ages

Those of us who have been with Music Together for a while love teaching classes with children of different ages—the resulting music is fascinating! In any one class one might hear cooing or extended "aahs" from babies; exclamations or occasional sung notes from toddlers; giggles, affection, and a lot of drumming from the twos and threes; and songs—remembered and created—by three- and four-year-olds. What a delicious feast for the ears—and parents can see the scope of music development before their very eyes.

Part of the "music" of mixed-age is the family united in one activity with each person participating at his or her own level. In class, the child's accompanying adult can join in with the children in playing egg shakers and singing. At home, grown-ups and children can sing and move together because they know the same songs. And since siblings attend class together, childcare arrangements aren't necessary.

Another reason we love the "music" of mixed ages is that it is educationally valid—learning in an informal family style is best. Younger children are fascinated by older children, especially when they're in action singing or

dancing. Older children bask in the admiration of the younger ones and enjoy helping them or singing to them. Older children also learn from the younger ones, because each child has his own growth path, and musical skills such as singing in tune or creating dances can occur at any young age.

Begun in 1987, the Music Together program was developed here in Princeton, and it is now enjoyed throughout the world. Here's how a parent from Berkeley, CA, evaluated her experience: "I highly recommend Music Together for kids 0–4. I found it to be the most engaging, nurturing, and fun way to develop, both rhythmically and tonally. I have been learning how to encourage my kids without being pushy and have learned how to spot developmental landmarks. Our enjoyment of the program has obviously encouraged the kids to pursue their own creative music making. Even the little one is starting to "compose" as well as mimic what she hears. My kids displayed more enjoyment during Music Together sessions than at any of the other programs for children of that age."

Music Together can be enlightening for parents, it's educationally valid, and it's fun. We hope you will join us this fall.

—Lynne Ransom D.M.A., CMYC Education Director

## FALL 2003 CLASSES

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