

# Practice Tips

Here are some practice tips from other Suzuki Strings parents like you. These are ways they have found that help during the "dreaded practice time" each day.

## Websites:

- [www.practicespot.com](http://www.practicespot.com)
- [www.suzukiassociation.org](http://www.suzukiassociation.org)
- [www.SuzukiViolinLessons.com](http://www.SuzukiViolinLessons.com)

## Time management:

- Practice in the a.m. - maybe 10 min.
- Pick a practice time, make it the same each day
- Make practice part of daily routine (including homework)
- Set time to practice every day
- Use kitchen timer (10 minutes ... break)
- Be flexible with practice times

## Remove distractions:

- Turn off the TV
- Practice space (varied vs. consistent)

## Rewards:

- Promise something after practice (TV, Cartoons, Playstation Games)
- Offer small rewards after reaching a goal or goal minutes (i.e. Mississippi and get ice cream)
- Balance a chocolate "kiss" on violin (child eats upon successful practice)
- Add stickers to charts or food charts for a good practice
- Bribery! (pennies)
- Reward method (bean jar/full or empty)

## Praise the child:

- Gather family members for a "concert"
- Call a radio station to play
- Show off night
- Playing for friends

## Child "in-charge":

- Let child "teach" the parent/sibling/friend about the violin
- Let child pick order of practice components
- Compete with siblings
- Let them choose practice time (earlier the better, treat like homework)

## Make it fun:

- Let them have fun being creative
- Free play before practice session (warm up)
- Practice-activated T-shirt (no chores during while worn)
- Playing in different environments (i.e. outdoors, park, backyard)
- Turn practice session into a game