

Suzuki Violin Curriculum

Beginners Level I: Introduction: The Basics

1. Care and handling of the violin and bow.
2. Holding the violin and bow and placement of feet in resting position and taking a bow.
3. Playing position feet (zip step), violin (12345 and hold on shoulder), bow (bow grip).
4. Violin strength and control: Holding violin on shoulder with left hand on right shoulder.
5. Bow: the grip (holding the bow properly) and control (movement of bow while maintaining correct bow grip) through games and exercises.
6. Resting position to playing position correctly and speedily.
7. Watching the teacher to learn to follow directions and work together as a group.
8. Preparation of bow before playing on the strings: “T-t-t-t-Ta-Ta” rhythm in air.
9. Play “T-t-t-t-Ta-Ta” rhythm on strings. Rock (change strings).
10. Simple songs on the open strings (without using the left hand fingers).

Continuing Level I: Using the Left Hand Fingers

1. Review of basics from Level One.
2. Preparation for using the left hand fingers: exercises.
3. “Playing” of the left hand fingers (without bow).
4. Playing Variation A (“T-t-t-t-Ta-Ta” in the tune of Twinkle) with pauses in certain places to give the left hand fingers time to work..
5. Playing Variation A with shorter pauses and eventually to no pauses.
6. Playing simple songs using the left hand fingers.
7. Work on the rhythms of Variations B, C, D and Theme. Play 1 or more of these in Twinkle.

Level II: More Songs

1. 2-4 early Book 1 Suzuki songs after the Twinkle Variations.
2. 1-3 Simple Familiar Songs.