



跳蚤 · 阅读精品系列中英文对照文丛

# 跳蚤 · 阅读 FLEA READER'S

第一辑  
⑩

小妇人

吃奶的人

献给老师

The Mystery of  
the Bermuda Triangle  
百慕大三角之谜

外文出版社

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# FLEA READERS

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## 前 言

《跳蚤·阅读》(FLEA READERS) 是刘国彬教授和美籍专家迈克·理斯顿先生为大中学生和广大英语爱好者精心策划的一套英语课外读物,是针对教育部对目前英语教学现状提出的意见编撰的,旨在为广大中学生和大学低年级学生提供一套既实用又轻松的中英文对照读物。

这套书编排形式活泼新颖,文章短小精悍,图文并茂,注释详实,这是本书的第一个特点;

第二,本丛书取材广泛,纵横古今中外,品类繁多,包罗影视文(章)网(络)。

我们拟先推出三辑 30 本,以后再陆续添加。在本丛书的成书过程中,许多人都付出了大量的时间、精力和心血。我们在此向他们表示由衷的感谢。

尽管我们在尽最大的努力做好每一件事,但是失误仍然在所难免。希望广大读者一如既往地对我们的工作进行监督与批评,并欢迎广大读者随时与我们联系。

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## **Give Your Children the Gift of Music**

*By Heven Kohl*

Music teacher Sandra Beech has no problem persuading the auditorium full of four-to nine-year-olds they have natural rhythm in their bodies. Her audience claps, stomps, even sneezes along with her song, in perfect time. Says the children's musician: "I've even had performances in which every child in the place was dancing in front of the stage. "

Most young children are naturally enthusiastic about music. And whether or not they continue to play musical instruments into adulthood, love of music is a gift that will continue to enrich them all their lives.

Music educators say the best way to impart this gift is by making music a part of your children's experience from their earliest days.

Fifteen-year-old Jonah Hister, who sang for five years with a Bach children's chorus and has sung in opera productions, has always been surrounded by music. His mother, Phyllis Simon, an avid flute player, started taking her children to community music programs when they were only 2 ½ . And she started them in violin lessons at age five.

**CHILDREN'S MUSIC**

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## 送给孩子一份礼物 ——爱好音乐

海伦·科尔



音乐教师桑卓·比奇能够轻松地使满礼堂4到9岁的孩子们相信，他们天生有韵律感。随着她的歌声，小观众们合着节拍拍手、跺脚，甚至发出阵阵呼喊。这位儿童音乐家说：“我甚至有过这样的经历，在我表演时，所有在场的孩子都跟着在台前跳起来。”

大多数儿童天生就喜爱音乐，不论他们长大成人后是否还继续演奏某种乐器，爱好音乐都将是一份会使他们的一生丰富多彩的礼物。

音乐教育家们认为，把这份礼物送给孩子的最好方法是在孩子们年幼时就使音乐成为他们生活经验的一部分。

15岁的乔纳·海斯特一直生活在音乐的氛围里。他在巴赫少年合唱团里唱过5年歌，还唱过歌剧，他母亲菲利斯·西蒙是个着迷的长笛手，她在孩子们刚两岁半时，就开始带他们去参加社区内的音乐演出，并在孩子们5岁时开始让他们上小提琴课。

生活新知



"You often can't tell whether a child is musically talented until he or she is six or seven, "says Donna Wood, founder of the Preparatory Music Program for children at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. "But long before that, parents can give their children many happy musical experiences. Then as they grow older, they'll be prepared for more serious study if they wish. "

You don't have to have perfect pitch to croon a lullaby or play a bouncing game with your baby. Toddlers love playing rhythmical clapping games or doing musical finger-play activities. And all youngsters can experiment with inexpensive rhythm instruments, such as shakers <sup>①</sup>, castanets <sup>②</sup>, tambourines <sup>③</sup> or drumsticks.

Even when your children are small, you can listen, sing and dance to recorded music with them. Introduce them to the joys of classical music, and take them to children's concerts so they will hear live music.

The first and most accessible instrument is the human voice, and in school, children should have the chance to experience the pleasure of singing in choirs.\*

If your child shows natural ability or keen musical interest, you might want to consider private lessons. "If your kid can repeat a radio-or TV-commercial jingle to you, on pitch and on key, that's a strong indicator of musical talent, "suggests music teacher Sam LaBrecque.

**LIVE AND ENJOY MUSIC**



加拿大安大略省多伦多市皇家音乐学院少年音乐培训计划创立人唐娜·伍德说：“一般说，只有小孩六七岁时，你才能确定他是否有音乐天赋。但在六七岁以前、在孩子更小一些时，父母亲可让他们多体会一些音乐中的乐趣。然后，等他们长大一些，再根据他们的愿望安排正规的音乐学习。”

哼支催眠曲，不一定音调完美，也不必和婴儿玩蹦蹦跳跳的游戏。蹒跚学步的孩子喜欢有节奏的拍手游戏，或者跟着音乐做做手指操。小孩们都可试着摆弄节拍性强、花费低的乐器，如沙锤、响板、狭长形鼓和鼓槌。

即便孩子还小，也可以和他们一起听音乐，跟着音乐唱歌、跳舞。还要让孩子们欣赏古典音乐，带他们参加儿童音乐会，让他们听现场的音乐。

最便捷也是最好用的“乐器”是人的嗓子。学校的每个孩子都应有机会去体验一下在合唱团中唱歌的乐趣。

如果孩子显示出音乐天赋或对音乐极有兴趣，就要考虑请家庭教师。音乐教师萨姆·拉布莱克说：“如果你的小孩能够重复广播电视上韵律简单的广告词，那就是有音乐天赋的明显标志。还可以

① shaker[ˈʃeɪkə] n.

摇荡器

② castanet

[ˌkæstəˈnet] n. 响板

③ tambourine

[ˌtæmbəˈriːn] n. 铃鼓

生活新知

“Another is your child’s natural rhythm. See if he or she naturally dances to music in time. Or beat a rhythm on the tabletop and see if your child can repeat it. ”

Private lessons ensure that your child gets focused instruction. A competent instructor should have good referrals <sup>①</sup> or a teacher’s certificates from a recognized music school. Ask to observe a lesson or a student recital to get a sense of how the teacher communicates with children. After all, if music lessons aren’t enjoyable, your child won’t want to go.

But first, you have to help your child choose the right instrument. “was the most common factor in musical failure — not lack of musicality or musical potential,” wrote authors Atarah Ben-Tovim and Douglas Boyd after interviews with thousands of children for their book, *The Right Instrument for Your Child*. They wonder, for example, what could have happened if violin virtuoso Yehudi Menuhin had been made to learn the trumpet originally.

Second, it’s important to wait until your child is physically and mentally ready for the discipline of formal lessons. The right age is often later than you may think. According to Ben-Tovim and Boyd, “for 95 percent of children, the best time to start learning their first instrument is sometime between the ages of 8 and 11. ”

**LIFE AND KNOWLEDGE**



看看小孩天生的韵律感怎样，看他是否会本能地和着音乐跳舞，你还可以在桌面上敲拍子，看他能否重复。”

个别辅导可保证孩子得到精心指导。称职的教师应当经过认真推荐，或是有一份由公认的音乐学校出具的教师资格证书。你可以旁听一节课，或者听一场学生音乐会，以便了解他如何唤起孩子们对音乐的兴趣。不管怎样，如果音乐课乏味，孩子就不想去。

不过，首先你得帮助小孩选择适当的乐器。《何种乐器适合你的孩子》的作者，阿塔拉赫·本·托伟姆和道格拉斯·鲍埃德写道：“导致人们在音乐方面无能的最常见因素，不是缺乏音乐天才和培养潜力，而是乐器选择不当。”他们采访了成千上万个孩子。难以想象，小提琴大师耶胡迪·梅纽因当初被强迫去吹小号，情形会怎样。

其次，等到孩子身心都乐于接受正规课堂的纪律约束后，再送他们上音乐课，这很重要。这个年龄要比人们想象的晚一些。本·托伟姆和鲍埃德说：“对于绝大多数儿童来说，开始学习第一件乐器的最佳年龄，大致是 8 到 11 岁。”

① referral [ri'fə:rl]

n. 推荐

Younger children may tell you they long to play a musical instrument, but that desire is often in the same league as a wish to be a fireman. And keep in mind that starting young doesn't guarantee a head start. "What takes a five-year-old three years to master can also be accomplished an eight-year-old in a few months, " say Ben-Tovim and Boyd.

Children should be able to read, write and do simple math before they start formal music lessons. In addition, they should have the spare mental energy, after school-work, to begin an entirely new activity. "A music class requires children to read symbols on a page and concentrate <sup>①</sup> for a half-hour lesson, " explains Labrecque. "The musical process is slow and should be enjoyed for its own sake. "

If private lessons aren't in your budget, consider group lessons, which give children the opportunity to practice with others, experiment with different repertoires <sup>②</sup> and decide how committed they are to a particular instrument.

Music educator David Weldon Watts, author of *Exploring the Joy of Music*, thinks learning in groups has some advantages over private lessons. "They may not develop technical proficiency, " he says, "because the teacher can't fine-tune everyone. but they can be considerably less stressful than private lessons, because



年幼的孩子可能会想弹奏某种乐器，其实，这和他想说想当一名消防队员没什么区别。记住，开始得早并不保证领先于其它孩子。本·托伟姆和鲍埃德说：“5岁孩子用三年才能学会的东西，8岁孩子只要几个月就能掌握。”

孩子们在上正规的音乐课之前，应能读会写，能做简单的数学运算。此外，在完成了学校功课，他们还得有多余精力，去开始一项全新的活动。拉布莱克解释说：“因为上音乐课要求孩子们学认音符，并要在半小时的上课时间内精力集中。音乐进程应缓慢，使孩子们充满乐趣。”

如果个别辅导对你来说费用太高，可以考虑到音乐班去上课。这能给孩子们一个与别人一起练习的机会，试验演奏各种不同的曲目，然后确定孩子对某一种乐器的喜爱程度。

《探索音乐中的乐趣》一书的作者——音乐教育家大卫·韦尔登·瓦茨认为，在音乐班中学习要比个别辅导更有益处。他说：“由于上课时教师不可能随时纠正每个人，孩子们可能技巧上不够熟；但与个别辅导相比，孩子

① concentrate  
[ˈkɒnsəntreɪt] v. 集中

② repertoire  
[ˈrepərtwɑː] n. 曲目

children don't need to worry that they'll be corrected every time they make a mistake. "

Finally, there's the most important question: How do you keep your child motivated to practice? Some children take to lessons quite naturally. Sixteen-year-old Carolyn Breukelman begged her parents for piano lessons and has practiced half an hour a day for the past three years without any prodding<sup>①</sup>. "I just love the piano," she says. "I think it will be special to me for the rest of my life. "

Others need more encouragement. Even though Jonah Hister hated practicing the violin when he started lessons at age five, his mother made him stick with it for three years, although she eventually conceded to weekly rather than daily practice. Today, ten years later, Jonah is playing the piano and guitar, each of which he practices for half an hour, two to four times a week. He also plays baritone in the school band and sings in a boys' choir<sup>②</sup>.

"Most kids don't like to practice, so you have to encourage them," says Phyllis Simon. "But it's important that parents actively watch and see how the child is doing with lessons. If he isn't happy, maybe it's the wrong instrument or teacher for him, or maybe you just have to sit it out for a while and be patient. "

Of course, it's not smart to push music lessons and practice to the point where you and your child are screaming at each other.



们会在精神上减轻不少压力，因为他们不必为一出错就被纠正而担忧。”

最后，还有个重要问题，就是如何激励孩子坚持练习？有些孩子自然而然地喜欢音乐课。16岁的卡罗琳·布鲁克曼是自己恳求父母让她上钢琴课的，她一天练半小时，已练有三年，从不需督促。她说：“我喜欢弹钢琴，我觉得这对我今后的生活意义独特。”

而另一些孩子则常需鼓励。尽管乔纳·海斯特5岁开始学琴时就不喜欢拉小提琴，他母亲还是使他坚持了三年，虽然，后来他母亲让步了，把每天练琴改为每周练一次。十年后的今天，海斯特正在学弹钢琴和吉他，每周练2到4次，每次半小时。他还在校乐队里吹萨克斯，在男声合唱队中唱歌。

菲利斯·西蒙说：“大多数孩子都不喜欢练习，所以父母亲必须督促他们。不过，父母亲主动地观察、了解孩子的作业情况也很重要。若孩子兴致不高，可能是因为选错了乐器、或找错了教师；或许你暂时只能‘袖手旁观’、耐心等待。”

显然，把上音乐课和练习搞到你和孩子相互争吵的程度，那是不明智的。

① prod[prɒd] v. 督促，激励

② choir[ˈkwaɪə] n. 合唱团



**“If it’s a constant battle, ” says Sam LaBrecque, “It’s not worthwhile. Music should be a positive experience. ”**  
**After all, your goal is to give your children the gift of music in whatever way they can best enjoy it, to be cherished for the rest of their lives.**