



TEACHER FEATURE

ALYSSA RONCO

Alyssa is one of several very talented Sing a Song teachers. Alyssa sings and plays flute and piano.

Of her Sing A Song experiences, Alyssa says, "Mornings are my favorite part of the day because I get to spend my time with my biggest fans!! I love teaching children of this age group because they are always excited and passionate about the music that we get to sing and play together. From one day to the next, my days are never the same. Each age group presents different joys and challenges. It is very exciting to bring out the light in these children, and I'm happy to be part of such a wonderful program!"

THE BASICS

What is music? A combination of sounds that has rhythm and melody and is pleasing to hear.

What is rhythm? The repetition of a beat or sound in a regular or predictable pattern.



THE BEAUTY AND MAGIC OF MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

"They move to the beat of their own internal rhythm. And sway back and forth like palms on a breezy Caribbean day. Then turn in swift circles, stumbling and falling, giggling helplessly. The little dancers – they move me."

The above is a lovely, visual quote from an article by music educator, Elisa Ast All.

During the early

childhood years, our little sponges are most open to new things and are eager to learn. More than just an art form, music – like math or language – entails its own type of intelligence, is wonderful for self-expression, and can set the stage for brain growth and development.

Music is academic. Research indicates that musical training

permanently wires a young mind for enhanced performance.

Music is physical.

Learning to sing, keep rhythm and move to music develops coordination.

Music is emotional, an artistic outlet, a vehicle of expression.

Music is for life. You can do it at any age – a gift you can give your child that will last their entire lives!

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT OPENS A DOOR TO THE HEART OF MANY CULTURES!

You can sing or play an instrument whether you're eight or eighty! And dancing isn't only for the young.

Children in Sing A Song classes enjoy many forms of expressive dance, both directed and free dance, as well as dancing with props like colorful scarves.

One type of dance we often include is **pantomime dancing.**

In pantomime dancing we play music that encourages imaginations to flourish and sing songs with animals or nature themes. We may move like creatures or things in nature and even move like inanimate objects.

We may swing our trunks like elephants, weave like a snake, spread our feathers like a proud peacock,

pretend to be a bouncing ball, or use our arms to mimic falling leaves. We can fly like a bird to soaring music, dance with our arms waving like branches in the wind and even mimic activities, like someone picking up spilled beans or carrying heavy packages. Our imaginations are limitless as we pantomime dance to all kinds of wonderful music!

FALL 2011



SONG

DANCE

INSTRUMENTS

WORLD MUSIC

SCARVES

PUPPETS

BOOKS

BEANBAGS

SING A SONG IS GROWING!

New teachers from South, Central and North Jersey. Lisa Marcelli, Cherry Hill. Jenna Bier, Cherry Hill. Giselle Sera Josef, Piscataway, Jessica Tangunan, Avenel, and Joe Bergen, North Haledon.

SEASONAL SONGS COME AND GO LIKE THE SEASONS

Sing A Song has a wealth of seasonal songs – winter songs about snow, dressing warmly and building snowmen, spring songs about baby chicks, raindrops and budding flowers, and summer songs about sea creatures, swimming and playgrounds.

Fall is no exception. We have songs

about falling leaves, apple trees and our newest, "Hey Mister Bushy Tail", about a squirrel collecting nuts for the long, cold winter ahead.

First verse:

"Hey Mister Bushy Tail. Hey Mister Bushy Tail. (Kids stand and wiggle their "bushy tails.") What have you got to say? (Point to mouth.) Hey Mister bushy tail.

Hey Mister Bushy Tail (wiggling). Looking for nuts today. (hand on forehead, looking back and forth)

Chorus:

I'm a squirrel, I'm a squirrel with a whirly tail' (whirly motion with arms) And I love climbing trees all over the world." (climbing motion)

Repeat chorus.

SONGS & ACTIVITIES OF AUTUMN 2011

At Sing A Song, we believe it's important to expose students to music from many different cultures and nations.

We are excited this fall to introduce your children to vibrant music from **India** to complement our growing international music collection. Stay tuned for more info...



ITTY BITTY BAT

"Itty bitty bat, itty bitty bat, flying through the night this way and that, itty bitty bat, itty bitty bat, I fly this way and that. You might think I'm a bird if you see me

out at night..."

Children will imagine being the bat or a bird. Individual children may get to be the bat with our cute bat finger puppet, while the others are flying or dancing birds. The "bat" may do a special dance or silly, simple move.

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT



VISION – Our vision for Sing A Song LLC is to encourage, nurture, and inspire every child, by recognizing they are special, and enjoying a dynamic musical experience with them.

CULTURE – We operate with integrity always. We are committed to excellence and quality. We are team-oriented. We are encouragers.

MISSION – Our mission is to recognize the uniqueness of each child, and what they bring to the group experience. We are committed to sharing our gifts and musical abilities, being sensitive to the needs of the group.