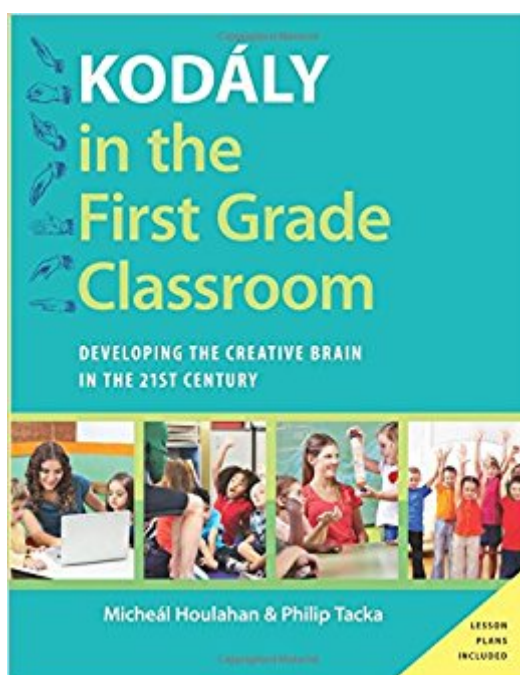


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Kodály In The First Grade Classroom: Developing The Creative Brain In The 21st Century (Kodaly Today Handbook Series)



Synopsis

Since the mid-twentieth century, Zoltán Kodály's child-developmental philosophy for teaching music has had significant positive impact on music education around the world, and is now at the core of music teaching in the United States and other English speaking countries. The Kodály Today handbook series is the first comprehensive system to update and apply the Kodály concepts to teaching music in elementary school classrooms. *Kodály in the First Grade Classroom* provides teachers with a step-by-step road map for developing children's performance, creative movement, and literacy skills in an organic and thoughtful manner. Through six years of field-testing with music kindergarten teachers in the United States, Great Britain, and Hungary (the home country of Zoltán Kodály), authors Michele Houlahan and Philip Tacka have developed a methodology specifically for 21st century classrooms. Houlahan and Tacka use the latest research findings in cognition and perception to create a system not only appropriate for the developmental stages of first grade students but also one which integrates vertically between elementary music classes. The methods outlined in this volume encourage greater musical ability and creativity in children by teaching them to sing, move, play instruments, and develop music literacy skills. In addition, *Kodály in the First Grade Classroom* promotes critical thinking, problem solving, and collaboration skills. Although the book uses the Kodály philosophy, its methodology has also been tested by teachers certified in Orff and Dalcroze, and has proven an essential guide for teachers no matter what their personal philosophy and specific training might be. Numerous children's songs are incorporated into *Kodály in the First Grade Classroom*, as well as over 35 detailed lesson plans that demonstrate how music and literacy curriculum goals are transformed into tangible musical objectives. Scholarly yet practical and accessible, this volume is sure to be an essential guide for kindergarten and early childhood music teachers everywhere.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Drs. Michele Houlahan and Philip Tacka are co-authors of: Kodály Today: A Cognitive Approach to Elementary Music Education and From Sound to Symbol: Fundamentals of Music, the Sound Thinking Series including Music for Sight-Singing and Ear Training Volumes I & II and Sound Thinking: Developing Musical Literacy Volumes I & II; Zoltán Kodály: A Guide to Research; and numerous articles. Both have presented papers both nationally and internationally on aspects of music theory, music history and Kodály studies and perception and cognition. They are faculty members for the Kodály Certification Program at Texas State University.

If you teach elementary music and want to do so effectively, you should probably purchase this entire series right away. It's incredible! The best part is that each book contains a year worth of units divided into sequential lessons and with specific repertoire (though there is plenty of flexibility if you want to use other repertoire for some parts of lessons). Even if your kids aren't caught up to the sequence (my 5th graders are currently on 2nd grade concepts), the lessons work and are adaptable to your students, your equipment, your classroom, your administration, and your overall situation. These books are an amazing resource for elementary music teacher and something that the elementary music world has been lacking for much too long. The lessons can also serve as an outline that can be supplemented with other activities (concert prep, Orff activities, instrumental performance, etc).

I love these books, what an incredible resource! However, I was disappointed that the 1st and 2nd grade books do not have any sheet music of the folk songs. They tell you where to find them in other books, but there isn't a single folk song on a staff available to you. The Kindergarten book has been a rock to my teaching as I am just starting out; it has lessons scripted but also had the written music in an appendix in the back, so wonderful to have everything in one place! Since it was the same series, I expected similar structure from the 1st and 2nd; I will still have to hunt and peck for the music itself. Still love these books, absolutely worth their weight in gold! If you're on the fence, just do it!

This has been an invaluable tool in my first year teaching. The step by step scripted presentation of key elements is so helpful! I am so thankful for the structure and guidance this has provided me. I'd recommend reading the authors' book Kodaly Today to understand more of the Kodaly concept. The Kindergarten book includes the music and instructions to many of the songs and games referenced here.

These books are amazing!!!! It's helpful if you've done at least Kodaly Level 1 but I'm confident even without that training these books would be invaluable in helping you to make sure you teach things in a logical and concise manner. Really really wonderful

Houlahan and Tacka are incredible! This is an AMAZING resource for the Kodaly structured classroom!! I highly recommend this and all of the coordinating resources from these amazing instructors, authors, and mentors!!!

Amazing songs and games that your students will love! For even more insights read all chapters. They come together beautifully and each one will benefit the teacher who is interested in improving her methodology .

I was using Kodaly Today, Kodaly in the First Grade Classroom ups the skill set for the students which was really needed. Easy to follow yearly plans, game instructions, and chapters dedicated to teaching practices for the method. Must have for elementary music teachers

I have actually attended sessions by these gentlemen, and seen firsthand how this curriculum concentrates on developing the musicianship of the child!

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