

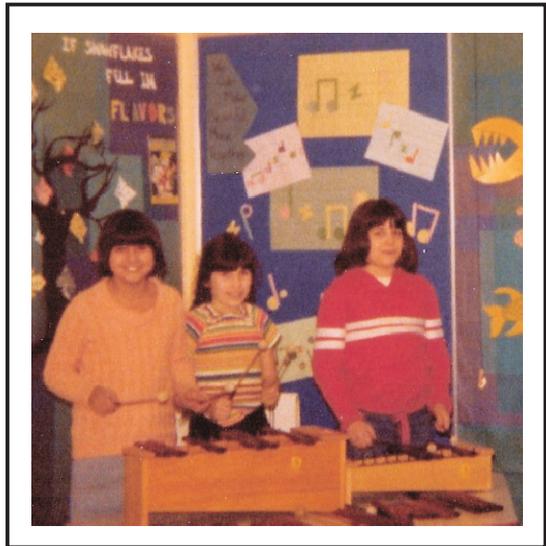
# How did this project begin? Well ...

*I didn't want to be a music teacher.*

I couldn't play the piano. I didn't have much in the way of formal music education. I wanted a classroom full of the same children all day and books and art and math and social studies and a little music. But my first year of teaching, the Toronto Board overhired. Based on my having audited the optional music course, and practice teaching, my B.Ed. music professor had written to and received permission from the Ministry of Education to award me the Level I Music Specialist Certificate. So there I was, placed in a JK to 6 as THE music teacher. Excitement at finally getting to be a teacher turned into fear and uncertainty.

I started with experience in choir and folk group(1960s) singing, 2 years of Junior High recorder and violin, camp counsellor summer work, the 1969(then new) OISE Music Curriculum and 4 weeks of practice teaching with an Orff Specialist.

In those beginning years *I learned I can do music, and teaching music is a wonderful profession.*



Shaw St. Public School  
Toronto Board of Education



## YOU CAN DO MUSIC TOO!

I'd like to help. I love music and children and teaching. Somewhere along the way I did get more formal music education, but a lot of what I learned was hands on. I think that if I'd been in a regular classroom my first years of teaching I would have been too busy developing language arts and math programs to spend much time focusing on how to teach music.

So I have put together a simple, step-by-step, guide for teaching classroom music. All the songs are either from the Public Domain or me --which means I can, and do give you permission to photocopy them for your classroom. We read books with young children before they can read ---it's just as helpful for children to see music before they can read it. **Even if you are an experienced music teacher you may find a few new ideas here along with lots of reproducible music and work pages.**

*Hope you enjoy your music lessons*

*Lesley*



Special thanks to teachers who have welcomed me into their classrooms, sharing their time, ideas and questions. Some of their names are included below. Omissions may be blamed on my bad memory for names, not because you are forgotten.

**Carmen Fioroso  
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Marie-France  
Dimitri  
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