

The exploration of piano enlightenment teaching for the Kindergarten student

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Abstract: There is a rich variety of piano enlightenment teaching materials on the market, in the practice of kindergarten student piano enlightenment teaching, the author has used: China's earliest published children's enlightenment tutorial "Children's Piano Preliminary Tutorial", compiled by the older generation of pianists Sheng Jianyi and others; the earliest into China, the widest spread area of foreign piano enlightenment teaching materials "John Thompson Easy Piano Course" and the applied piano pedagogy of "Play the children's songs, learn the accompaniment". Through teaching practice, it is found that the education of applied piano is more suitable for modern children, which is a teaching method in line with kindergarten student's cognitive rules and psychological characteristics. Kindergarten students are very fond of playing and singing familiar songs at any time through learning so that students can learn the piano in happiness.

1. Introduction

With the continuous development of society and the continuous updating of educational concepts, people have higher and higher requirements for improving their level of education. Childhood education is an important part of basic education, and art education is believed to build an important foundation for children's future learning and is also receiving more and more attention. [2] Under the influence of traditional educational concepts and social talent demand, many families hold the idea of winning at the starting line, as well as the social demand for comprehensive application talents, which also causes many preschool children have begin to receive piano education. Kindergarten student piano education has gradually moved to the forefront of art education and has become a music subject favored by many parents and educational institutions.

At present, the problems facing piano learning for kindergarten students in China are as follows:

1. Most piano education materials are from finger contact to Cherni, sonata, and difficulty gradually deepens with the length of the study time. Lack of appropriate teaching materials, children have no interest in learning, the quality of the homework is not high and feels difficult, and many people learning piano but can stick to very few. [3]

2. Teachers teaching content and methods are single, most of the traditional piano teaching "cured performance style of playing from sheet music", pays

attention to the training of basic skills. There are serious "technology" tendencies and a lack of musicality. [7]

3. Social piano education is commercial. It takes grade examination as the goal of piano learning, and only pays attention to the number of grade test tracks learned, rather than the accurate positioning of the learning degree. Parent's ideas and behaviors can influence the teaching of piano teachers to a certain extent. [1]

Kindergarten Student piano enlightenment teaching involves kindergarten Student's special physiological and psychological characteristics so that many educational concepts and teaching methods are constantly introduced and adapted. Student's characteristics of short concentration time, large emotional fluctuations, limited action ability make piano teachers face a lot of teaching pressure. How to improve the quality of kindergarten Student's piano teaching and what teaching method to use to carry out teaching practice has become an important problem in modern piano teaching.

In 2014, some kindergartens in China cited the applied piano pedagogy for the first time and conducted an experiment the applied piano teaching for kindergarten students aged 4-6 and achieved remarkable results. There are twelve teaching modules for applied piano pedagogy, through the teaching modules of kindergarten student's piano education and piano duet, the children learned to play their favorite children's songs in a short time and have a great interest in the learning of music. [6] The applied piano pedagogy in the happy learning piano and interest learning piano teaching characteristics is especially suitable for kindergarten

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Student's piano teaching. Its teaching material combined with kindergarten Student's physiological characteristics and psychological characteristics, in the early stage of the teaching of fixed pitch, fixed fingering, and fixed finger position, this convenient to play, modular introduction teaching method for learners, can let kindergarten Students in the entry stage feel simple, relaxed and happy, make learners happy to learn the piano. In the later stage of the teaching material, more than 200 children's songs that all children are familiar with and love are compiled into the teaching material. Kindergarten students can quickly and completely play their favorite children's songs, learn to accompany their favorite children's songs, improve their piano playing level, stimulate kindergarten Student's interest in learning, and establish their confidence and sense of achievement in learning the piano. [6] It starts with the local culture, with many Chinese songs, much less difficult, combined with the traditional piano with Western classical works as the main context and the cultivation of piano playing skills can greatly enrich the piano teaching content, so that kindergarten students can learn the piano foundation at the same time to take into account the piano application ability and piano playing ability in parallel, more in line with the cognitive law and physical and mental development of kindergarten students. [4] And this kind of piano pedagogy has been constantly introduced into traditional piano teaching, combined with Piano basic skills practice, which can better meet the learning needs of kindergarten students so that students feel simple, easy and happy in the entry stage of piano learning. Therefore, the author thinks that the applied piano pedagogy should be introduced to design the kindergarten student piano enlightenment teaching can promote the innovation of music education, which has important practical significance and theoretical value.

It is hoped that this set of teaching methods more in line with children's cognitive rules can better integrate musical elements into teaching so that children can feel the beauty of music in a pleasant atmosphere, cultivate their musical emotion and musical literacy, and not just cultivate piano skills.

2. About the teaching material

This study studies the teaching of piano enlightenment in kindergarten students. "Children's Piano Preliminary Tutorial" compiled by Chinese piano educators Sheng Jian Yi, Yang Su Ning, Zhang Yong Qing, Zhou Wen Ying; "John Thompson Easy Piano Course" compiled by John Thompson in American and "Play the children's songs, learn the accompaniment" compiled by Xin Di, dean of music education college of China Xing hai conservatory of Music, which is the high usage in Chinese piano education market was selected by author for the reference. "Children's Piano Preliminary Tutorial", first published in October 1984, was self-written for Chinese children's piano learning, filling the vacancy of local children's piano enlightenment textbooks at that time. It is proposed to first understand the re (D) tone played by the second finger between two black keys,

which is easy for kindergarten students to remember and fingers stand well with knuckles when playing. Recognize sheet music from the kindergarten student's catchy syllable names began to learn, using the method of learning multiple notes do (C), re (D) and mi (E) as a way to get started, consolidated through repeated practice of 5 songs, to help children master these three notes. These teaching materials compared with the mainstream teaching materials introduced from foreign countries in the market, have national characteristics. The teaching materials select the repertoire that can meet the children's learning from the music of each nation as the content of the teaching materials, and the tunes are closely related to the life of Chinese piano learners. Such repertoire arrangement can enable kindergarten students to get in contact with Chinese works and feel the charm of national culture during the enlightenment period of learning piano. In addition to the solo, it also uses a combination of playing and singing, piano duet play form. After kindergarten students learn to play, they can combine the lyrics while singing and playing, teacher leads the children to practice together, compared with the simple practice of playing, children's enthusiasm can be greatly improved, and the kindergarten student's ability to combine singing and playing can be exercised. And the piano duet combination lets the children play together with their partners, in the process of practice, they should focus on playing their voices well and taking into account their partners. Communication, learning, comparison between partners can promote children's understanding and improvement of music, and can also improve children's ability to recognize sheet music and sight-playing.

"John Thompson Easy Piano Course" is world-recognized as the authoritative teaching material for the beginning of piano. It was published in China in 1995. It is a set of teaching materials with the most profound influence on the piano enlightenment of Chinese children. It is the first systematic introduction of black and white keys, sound name, staff, clef, subsection, a time signature, fingering, and other content, before entering the recognized sheet music. Using the method of central C entry, first understand the central C (do) in the middle of the piano, and under the trademark, start from the central C of the high note of the right hand, and then the central C of the bass note of the left hand, and gradually expand to both ends. Most of the songs in the teaching materials are foreign folk songs, the lyrics are mostly in English, and the melody is strong, they are mainly short songs that children are prone to interest in. The teaching content is rich, with beautiful illustrations to attract children's attention. Following the principle of gradual progress in curriculum setting and difficulty, each class will add new learning content that can bring freshness to children based on the knowledge they have mastered and attach hands-on writing of the homework exercises to help students consolidate what they have learned that day. Authors often analyze problems from the perspective and thinking of children, and in setting up teaching material content, will present profound and difficult-to-understand music theory knowledge in a language that is in line with the understanding of piano enlightenment children,

recognized by a wide range of educators, makes the teaching material gradually replaced other teaching material become a teaching material with a very high market share. However, many of these foreign teaching materials are mainly based on Western cultural elements. While learning the teaching advantages of Western teaching materials, we should also take the cultural advantages of domestic teaching materials into account the interest and culture of learning music, to help children get a good piano learning experience.

"Playing Children's Songs and Learning Accompaniments" and "Children Parent-Child Enlightenment" are suitable for applied piano enlightenment courses for piano learners aged 3-5. The "Xin Di Applied Piano Teaching Method" was inspired by the American comprehensive music education. With harmony as the center, pay attention to the training of piano improvisation skills, accompaniment skills, piano playing and singing skills and other applications, and comprehensively improve comprehensive musical literacy, so that learners can enjoy the fun of learning the piano. [4]

The researchers used "Playing Children's Songs and Learning Accompaniments 1" as an entry textbook. The recognized sheet music starts from the do of c^2 , which to some extent avoids the problem of confusing the left and right hands when learning "central c". [8]

The teaching materials uses the form of double-row staff and chord mark to record the score, also added the left-hand accompaniment of the music forms prompts, this is what distinguishes it from the traditional piano teaching materials. Convenient for learners to know the correspondence between the left-hand chord and the right melody, which can better cultivate students' sense of harmony, and apply the theory to practice. It combined with the physiological characteristics of kindergarten student's weak hands, in the early exercises, the position of the left and right hands was fixed. The left hand is the fixed position of the decomposition chord playing, and the right hand from lesson one to lesson five is limited to the practice range of 1, 2, 3 fingers, fixed pitch, and fixed fingering. The knowledge points of each lesson will be changed and repeated through 13 exercises, and the goal of mastering the knowledge will be achieved through the amount of exercises. The second lesson is to play the whole notes in the continuation of the 1, 2, and 3 fingers of the right hand, which adds a simple decomposition and string of the pattern accompaniment tone for the left 1, 2, and 3 fingers, so as for kindergarten student to focus their attention on the practice of the left hand and establish the concept of the right hand melody and the left hand accompaniment. In the third less on left hand adds roman numeric chord marks based on the teaching content of lesson 2, and half note rhythm exercise to the right hand. In this way, each class has new knowledge points, step by step. Through the form of parent-child class or group class, train the cooperation and interaction between learners, learn the rules of accompaniment (chord marks), train piano playing and singing and cooperation, and enrich the teaching atmosphere. Training on the coordination of the cooperation, and training on the coordination of playing and singing can

enrich the teaching atmosphere.

3. About Children learning

3.1 Physical

Kindergarten student's bone hardness is small, large toughness, easy to bend deformation, dislocation, or damage. In this critical period of children's physical development, the correct playing posture is very important for kindergarten student's healthy development, therefore, we need to correct children's wrong hand shape and sitting posture in time. Bad piano practice habits will hinder children's future development, and may even cause bone deformation in severe cases. Their small muscle groups are not well developed, their hand movements are clumsy, and they can not complete detailed piano skills. And this stage children's endurance is poor, easy to fatigue, and the time of concentration is relatively short, at about 15 minutes. Therefore, at the beginning of learning the piano, we need to start with simple finger practice. We should strictly control the single practice time. The time is shorter and practice many times to avoid fatigue or muscle strain, otherwise, there is no good practice effect. In the process of teaching, teachers should properly change the teaching content and teaching mode appropriately, so that kindergarten students are always full of expectations for the next link and stimulate their interest in learning the piano. [9]

3.2 Emotional

Kindergarten students are young, and their behavior is often controlled by emotions, extremely unstable, and easy to rely on parents and teachers. Class is often in a passive state and has poor initiative; they cannot complete the task of playing the piano independently after class, so parents need to help remember the practice requirements of the teacher in class. Therefore, the necessary intervention and guidance for adults is an important guarantee for kindergarten students to insist on learning. On the other hand, parents and teachers should pay attention to kindergarten student's personality traits, patiently help kindergarten student control their emotions, get rid of the psychological characteristics of dependence, and consciously cultivate their autonomy and independence. This is also conducive to the smooth development of piano learning. [2]

3.3 Development of kindergarten student

Although kindergarten students are young, they also need to be paid attention to, be respected, aesthetic and sense of achievement. Some kindergarten student choose to learn the piano to get the recognition of their parents. Adults' care, attention, and affirmation can bring them a sense of belonging. Any beautiful thing will make people instinctively love and pursue it. When they can perfectly play a piece of music in the spotlight of the stage, they

can get everyone's attention and recognition and also can get the praise of teachers and students. They will feel happy, and will look forward to the next challenge, this need to become the motivation to constantly push kindergarten student forward, can stimulate their enthusiasm for learning, and can play an auxiliary role in teaching activities. Therefore, in teaching, teachers must actively adjust kindergarten student's learning state, pay attention to the grasp of the degree of difficulty, not let kindergarten students easily pass, also do not let kindergarten students feel difficulty and give up hope.

For kindergarten students, the teaching arrangement, with a group class and an individual class a week is appropriate. Group classes to explain the common knowledge, and individual classes to solve the specific problems encountered by kindergarten students in the practice. The combination of the two teaching modes can not only avoid the problem that children's interest is not well maintained in individual classes but also solve the individual differences of different kindergarten students. To achieve the teacher from the actual situation of students, different teaching, so that each student can foster strengths and circumvent weaknesses. Therefore, the teaching plan for piano learning can be carried out gradually according to children's age, interest, and ability. It is important to maintain fun and a positive learning experience. Researchers encourage children to explore the music world, and constantly adjust the teaching content according to their development needs, leading them to study music score reading, pitch discrimination, tone and rhythm, imitating singing, sight-playing, combining piano playing and singing, instrumental ensemble, piano duet and so on, to achieve the goal of improving students' comprehensive music literacy.

Kindergarten students understand everything in the world through a specific way of image, and they are very sensitive to intuitive things, vivid pictures and gorgeous colors. [2] When teachers teach the part of samey hand shape, finger exercises, and theoretical knowledge, teachers can choose various and novel teaching methods to stimulate kindergarten student's perception, and skillfully fit with kindergarten student's psychology to achieve good teaching results. For example, when teaching the semi-fist playing hand shape, the author is very impressed by the case of creating a vivid picture of children gently holding a bird in the palm of his hand. Feel our palms holding a fluffy lovely bird in the middle of our hands, when we clench our fists, the bird might get hurt, and hold the loose, the bird will fly away. So how should we hold the bird in the palm of our hand without hurting the bird? At this stage, children like such teaching content very much, which is vivid and close to kindergarten student's real life. The question raised by the teacher later is using the heuristic teaching method, can raise kindergarten student's curiosity, and bring the children into the situation. At this time, children are willing to understand the knowledge and will want to participate in learning performance, teachers need to give children full satisfaction of in interactive participation. Although the tutorial on "Playing Children's Songs and Learning Accompaniments" is also arranged from simple to profound, compared to "John Thompson Easy Piano

Course" and "Children's Piano Preliminary Tutorial", "Playing Children's Songs and Learning Accompaniments" do not clearly mark the basic knowledge of music theory as they do. This requires teachers to understand the music theory knowledge hidden in the music based on the teaching focus of each lesson, in the process of using the tutorial teaching, timely add the corresponding teaching content as a supplement. The explanation of the sitting posture, hand playing posture, keyboard diagram, finger sequence, Imitation playing in "Children's Piano Preliminary Tutorial" and the musical theoretical basis in "John Thompson Easy Piano Course", such as staff, treble clef, a time signature, bar, bar line, termination line, etc is very systematic, and is also one of the contents that researchers add to the kindergarten student's piano enlightenment class.

The first volume of the teaching material "Playing Children's Songs and Learning Accompaniments" has five lessons, the right hand is always around the do, re, and mi in the two-lined octave. In the first lesson, the right hand is mainly playing do, re, and mi of quarter notes and whole notes, while the left-hand starts from the practice of third fingers (mi), second fingers (fa), and the first fingers (sol). For each new lesson, the author will add some corresponding piano keyboards and staff tables to facilitate kindergarten students to correspond to the new notes. We will also add the part of writing-after-school exercises for kindergarten students to draw and write. After completing the teaching content of the first lesson of the teaching material, the author will introduce a new friend to the kindergarten student, playing the two-beat "half note". At the same time, the author will also teach the kindergarten student to know the middle tone area —c¹, which is lower by one tone range than the c². Here, the author will insert the children's song "Mary Has A Little Lamb" for teaching, let kindergarten students pop up familiar nursery rhymes while recognizing three notes, and fully mobilize kindergarten student's interest in learning. In the second lesson of the teaching material, the left hand has added the hand-simple decomposition of chord accompaniment pattern 1, which is the first attempt of left-hand and right-hand cooperation. It is a challenge for kindergarten students. To let kindergarten students pay attention to the accompaniment of the left hand, the right hand at this time is simplified and unified to use a single tone and play whole notes. Then, in the third lesson of the teaching material, roman numeral chord markers are added between the double-row staff to record the score and one chord per bar, so that kindergarten students can learn to look at the chord markers to determine the notes arranged by the left hand, breaking the previous "cured performance style of playing from sheet music". The left hand upgraded the ending bar based on repeating the accompaniment pattern 1 in lesson 2, from the original fixed 3 finger shot 4 beats of mi into mi (1 beat) - sol (1 beat) - mi (2 beats); in addition to the original section of the right hand a full note, but also increased the form of a bar of two halfnote, with the increase of the number of practice tracks, the number of half note gradually increased, and the difficulty also gradually increased.

Each lesson of the teaching material is equipped with 13 track exercises with variations and repetitions so that kindergarten students can master the knowledge of the new lesson through a large amount of exercises, teachers can arrange as needed, and Children don't need to play all of them if they master them well. In lesson 4 of the teaching material, the right-hand remains unchanged, and new content is added to the left hand-simple decomposition of chord accompaniment pattern 2. The left hand has changed from ABBB to ABAB, and a bar of two chords has been added. The fifth lesson in the teaching material is a comprehensive rhythm exercise, as the name suggests, three kinds of chronaxie have been learned: quarter notes, half notes, and whole notes, this lesson puts the improvement of difficulty on the right hand. The left hand is the same as the setting of lesson 4 and remains unchanged. After the completion of the comprehensive rhythm course, the author will insert the children's song "Kiss Me" for teaching, it is also a song with only three tones of do, re and mi, compared with the previous children's songs, its tone is higher. After learning the basic C major, kindergarten student can also try to change the different keys to practice. Such a teaching material arrangement will bring new knowledge and increase the difficulty of each lesson, and it can be applied to both group lessons and one-to-one individual lessons. In the group class, teaching can be carried out through methods such as ensemble, split voice ensemble, and group music sentence connection games, which can promote learning from each other, fully mobilize the enthusiasm of kindergarten students, and the classroom atmosphere better. For example, boys and girls can be grouped according to gender, the boy's voice is lower and rough, plays the relatively weak need to control the volume of the left hand chord accompaniment. The girl's voice is louder and more melodious, playing the right-hand melody alone, the two parts cooperate with each other and play together, which can exercise children's teamwork ability, and listening ability, to the goal of cultivating students' comprehensive application ability.

The content of "Xin Di Applied Piano Four-hand Play Course Children Parent-Child Enlightenment" will also be added to the author's kindergarten student's piano enlightenment class. In classroom teaching, parents and children sit together to listen to the teacher's explanation and practice. Under the teacher's encouragement of the teacher, parents and children sing loudly, beat the rhythm, and play together, making the piano teaching into a warm parent-child game. This new teaching mode is different from the previous "cramming" teaching method, parents and children are equal, they help their children sing the score, children play the rhythm when they play the piano, correct the sound of the wrong play, and they communicate with each other. Through cooperation with parents, children can feel the "lovely" side of their parents, and parents can understand the real feelings of children's hearts through playing, which changes the absolute status of parents in the process of learning the piano. Can greatly mobilize the interest of parents and children. [5]

4. Summary

With the development of art education, the piano is rapidly penetrating people's daily lives and becoming more and more popular. Traditional piano education is inspired by some successful piano schools in the Soviet Union and Europe, focusing on the cultivation of piano playing skills, which is difficult, easy to feel bored, and makes the learning process challenging. This method follows the tradition of piano teaching in the Soviet Union, focusing on the specification of hand shape, emphasizing the independence of fingers, so that it can run easily and quickly. Children need to do a lot of practice to complete, out of the nature of happy learning music. Kindergarten student's piano enlightenment teaching is designed to stimulate kindergarten student's music potential, cultivate music interest, and develop coordination ability. The traditional piano education of cultivating children's piano playing skills can improve children's piano playing ability, and the applied piano education of cultivating comprehensive application ability is the teaching method of applying what they have learned, which can enhance children's enthusiasm in learning piano. The organic combination of them can create a diversified, interesting, and efficient teaching experience:

1. Diversified learning experience: The applied piano makes the learning process more interesting, and the traditional piano which pays attention to the cultivation of basic skills can establish a solid musical foundation so that kindergarten students can get different learning experiences in piano learning.

2. Cultivate music perception: The applied piano can help kindergarten students better perceive music through interaction and games. The traditional piano cultivates the ability to perceive notes, melody, and harmony by playing music. By combining the two, children can develop music perception in an all-round way.

3. Improving coordination ability: Traditional piano teaching focuses on finger coordination and hand-eye coordination, which helps to cultivate kindergarten student's coordination ability and concentration. The interactive elements of the applied piano can also enhance their cognitive and coordination skills.

4. Creative expression: The applied piano can encourage kindergarten students to express themselves creatively, let them explore music freely, and create simple melody and rhythm. The traditional piano provides a rigorous music foundation so that kindergarten students can better understand and play classical music works.

Therefore, the author believes that in the teaching of kindergarten students piano enlightenment, the selection of teaching material is not the end, teachers can flexibly combine the parts conducive to the cultivation of student's piano playing ability in practice, realize the mutual transformation between knowledge, to improve the piano classroom teaching quality, give full play to the teaching methods, to fundamentally solve the problems in the present kindergarten student piano enlightenment education.

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