

# Have You Tried This???

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Things I've learned, tried, heard, dreamed up

1. Teach.....it's your responsibility. No teaching police.

Method books should be an accompaniment to your teaching style

Teach outside of a book

- A. Various methods, learn new ways to present concepts
- B. Use what you liked
- C. Add to them from your own knowledge and skill
- D. Use Post-it Tabs to indicate practice pieces
- E. Build repertoire from the beginning side-tabs
- F. Supplement with fun music
  - Black keys, finger numbers, key letters
  - a. Folk tunes, praise chorus, sports jams,
  - b. Excel spread sheet, clip art

## Rhythm Matters

Internal Beats....top of the head

- A. Count to a metronome, don't clap
- B. Cross-Body Rhythms....same rhythm four times within a steady beat
- C. Technical skills should be reinforced with rhythm foundation
- D. Measure Stick

## Technique

- A. Let them look at their own Hand Position
- B. Students should hold hands in front of them
- C. Reminder phrases....Good Piano Hands, on the Tips, Bubble Under
- D. Build a Bridge focus on the strength of the 2-3-4

## Scales shouldn't be Scary

Two Octaves from beginning. Reinforces thumb turns.

Teach in sets....Similar fingering rules

## ET Spot

Student initiated

Multiple choices before answers

Quality as well as quantitative (legato vs. intervallic)

## Cadences

Learn and Use in folk tunes to transpose and accompany

## Happy Birthday Project

## Project-Based Learning

Five-weeks, one week to introduce it and 4 weeks to experience it

Multiple levels on each introductory sheet.

Don't force the issue.

Say it in September

Story Project, Halloween

Chords Only Silent Night

Hymn of the Month Every one learn the same one

Twelve-Bar Blues