

**Janice Holter Kittok**  
Educator in Service LLC

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**Tap Into the Musicality of Language**

ACTFL 2018

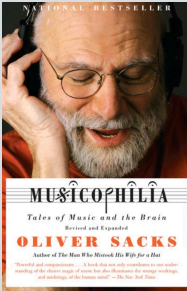
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**Music is a whole brain activity.**  
**Fascinating Facts**



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**Tales of Music and the Brain**



*“Music occupies more areas of our brain than language does – humans are a musical species.”*

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**Post-stroke speech and singing**




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**Group music-making bonds human beings.**




*“Singing together, or engaging in rhythmic movement as a group encourages cooperative behavior.”*

- Endorphins released
- Inclusion | Connectedness

Source: <http://www.psmag.com/health-and-behavior/feeling-isolated-try-choral-singing>

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**Language is Music**



*“You need to hear the language to get it imprinted in your brain and then you are going to be able to reproduce those sounds.”*

Susan Zarasky, author  
**Language is Music**

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Music as a teaching strategy



**HOW TO TEACH A SONG  
STEP-BY-STEP**

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**Du, du är min vän  
Jag är också din vän  
Vi är glada  
Vi är vänner**

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Music in spoken word



**All languages have musicality:  
intonation ~ pitch ~ rhythm**


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There is music in every language.

| Lyrics  | Score  |
|---|--|
| <p>Grey skies are gonna clear up.<br/>Put on a happy face.<br/>Brush off the clouds and cheer up.<br/>Put on a happy face.</p> <p><small>LITTLEMUSICALYRICS GREY-VIOLET.THIRD.COM</small></p> |  |

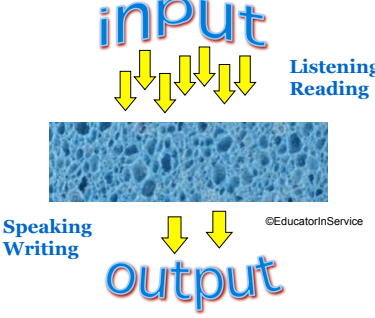
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Can you know the score without the lyrics?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNKn5ykP9PU>

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**input**

Listening Reading

Speaking Writing

**output**

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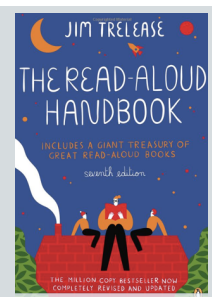
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### What we know for sure

**What advice is given parents to help their children learn language & prepare them to become readers?**

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### The Read-Aloud Handbook by Jim Trelease



Front Cover

**READING IS AUDITORY**

Strategy:


- **Teacher** reads the text aloud with natural pacing, intonation and emotion.
- **Students** follow along looking at the text or with eyes closed.

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### Teacher Retell

**BENEFITS**

- Record the *lyrics* and the *score* of the language on the brain
- Listening fluency with *comprehension*
- Connect story, language and *emotion*
- ENJOYMENT!!



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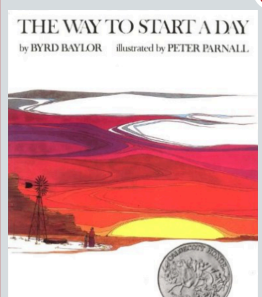
Music  
in  
spoken  
word

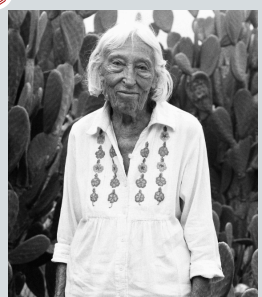


**CHORAL READING**

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### The Way to Start a Day





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*The Way to Start a Day*  
Byrd Baylor

**GREEN = Left**  
**RED = Right**  
**BLACK = All**  
**BLUE = Tchr**

The way to start the day is this –

Go outside  
and face the east  
and greet the sun  
with some kind of  
 **blessing**  
or chant  
or song  
that you made yourself  
and keep for  
 **early morning.**

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**The Way to Start a Day**  
Byrd Baylor

**GREEN = Left**  
**RED = Right**  
**BLACK = All**  
**BLUE = Tehr**

The way to make the song is this –  
 Don't try to think  
 what words to use  
 until  
 you're standing there  
 alone.  
 When you feel the sun  
 you'll feel  
 the song too.  
**Just sing it.**

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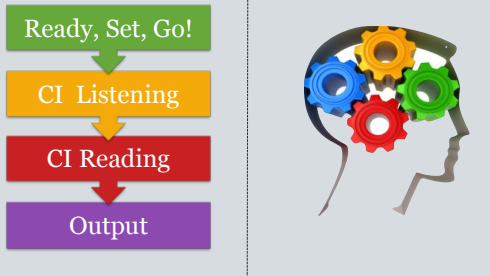
Music is a language



Source: YouTube > Victor Wooten, Music is a Language

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**Content-Based Storytelling**  
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**Output**

Writing & speaking are not language acquisition. They are evidence that acquisition HAS ALREADY OCCURRED.

*Stephen Krashen*



**Writing**



**Speaking**

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**Bridge to Output**



**I N P U T** **O U T P U T**

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**Scaffold OUTPUT Experiences**

**Learner Support**

Lots of support → Less support → Totally independent work

**Task Difficulty**

Simple tasks → More complex tasks → Open-ended, risk-taking, creativity

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“When acquiring another language,



First, we learn to **LISTEN** We learn to **READ** from what we’ve heard




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Source: Grant Boulanger

We learn to **WRITE** from what we’ve heard and read Finally, we **SPEAK** because we’ve heard, read, and written it.”

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Professional Development Getaway Retreats



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Onsite Professional Development



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**World Savvy Intelligence**

**KNOWLEDGE** Understands how the world works



**SKILLS** Communicates and relates to the world’s people




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