

Tips for the Practice Parent

This is for the child CAN practice on their own but is getting easily distracted.

1. You are there to be a witness to your child's hard work.
 - a. You are not there to make sure your child is succeeding or moving forward.
2. Get all your parenting/talking done before the lesson. Because Rule #2 says no talking.
3. Try not to talk at all. If there is a 30 second pause, you can say one of these things:
 - a. "It sounds wonderful."
 - b. "I love hearing your hard work in action."
 - c. "Is there more?"
 - d. "What does it say to do next on the practice chart?"
4. If your child needs a break:
 - a. "Do you need a break?"
 - b. "For how many minutes?"
 - c. "Should we set a timer, or do you want me to call you when time is up?"
 - d. "What should I do if you don't practice after your time is up?"
 - e. Set the rules before the break is taken.
5. Try not to engage if your child does not engage with you.
 - a. Avoid eye contact while child is practicing.
 - b. No comments, negative nor positive. Save the positive ones for AFTER the practice.
 - c. Don't say "Good job," because when you don't, your child will notice.
 - d. No joking. No sarcasm.
6. You are basically a piece of furniture.
 - a. You are not there to have opinions. (This might be hardest for some people.)
 - b. If something isn't going right, you can contact me so I can address it in the lesson.
7. Do not keep time (except for breaks). If your child says they are done, then they are done.
8. You can do other things, as long as you can stay aware of your child at all times. Remember, you are there to be a witness to your child's hard work.
9. Please try not to:
 - a. Tune out enough to not know what your child is doing.
 - b. Leave the room.
 - c. Eat.
 - d. Be engaged in conversation with someone else.
10. You are there to be a witness to your child's hard work.