
WHAT'S IN YOUR TOOLBOX?

STRATEGIES FOR WORKING WITH YOUNG SINGERS

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- Research now suggests that our students brains are being “rewired” due to the overwhelming amount of technology that they are exposed to on a daily basis.
 - The old bag of tricks that we have been using for years doesn’t have the same impact it once had. We need to find new ways to fill up our toolbox to reach our singers.
 - It is not our job to be an entertainer, but we must “rewire” our teaching practices to help reach the attention of our singers and help them connect to the music in new and different ways.
 - Giving singers “tools” to increase self-awareness and engage both sides of the brain increases rehearsal productivity and efficiency. This will lead to unforgettable experiences for you and your students.

POSTURE

- Slinky
- Clothespins

BREATHING

- Hoberman Sphere
- Whisk
- Straws
- Peppermints
- Candles
- Bubbles
- Stickers
- Panty Hose

VOCAL PRODUCTION

- Foam Rocket
- Slide Whistle
- Stuffed Animal
- Spatula
- Rubber Bands
- Stickers
- Masks

SPACE IN THE TONE

- Tennis Ball
- Cookies
- Marshmallows
- Hershey Kisses
- Peppermints
- Toothpicks

DYNAMICS

- Hoberman Sphere
- Measuring Cups
- Flashlights

ARTICULATION

- Squeaky Hammer
- Tongs
- Scissors
- Feathers
- Paint Brush

TEMPO

- Squeaky Hammer
- Toothpicks
- Feathers

PHRASING

- Slinky
- Paint Brushes
- Ribbon

ASSORTED TOOLS

- Hollywood Sign
- Sing-A-Ma-Jigs

REFERENCES

- *Gadgets for Great Singing* by Christy Elsner
 - Shawnee Press
- *Singing FUNdamentals Toy Handbook* by Lee Gwozdz
 - Choristers Guild (sold as part of the toybox)

FINAL THOUGHT

“Tell me and I forget.
Teach me and I remember.
Involve me and I learn.”
~ Benjamin Franklin

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