

# Be Sharp Beetles

developing happy children through music

## NEWSLETTER

**Be Sharp Beetles** focuses on developing your child's musical abilities from year to year. This leads to a child that can think out of the box and think *creatively*.

### WHAT IS CREATIVITY?

*Creativity is defined as the tendency to generate or recognize ideas, alternatives, or possibilities that may be useful in solving problems, communicating with others, and entertaining ourselves and others.*

During a music session where movement and percussion play is involved, children are encouraged to think as songs have words and themes that can be discussed. In Be Sharp Beetles class this quarter we have sung the songs about "the two little frogs" that teaches children about frogs, their habits and the sounds they make. We have learnt about Jean-Bel and Smokey (two cats), we have celebrated Birthdays with the Happy Birthday song and learnt about the ceremonies surrounding a birthday and we have done different movements with balls and instruments to the "Bouncing Ball" song.

Children are motivated to be creative when they participate in musical activities as they enjoy the stimulation, they feel successful when they solve problems and they can communicate their ideas and values. In order to be creative, you need to be able to view things in new ways or from a different perspective. There are many ways to move during a song that is for example from the genre of Rock and Roll music. Twisting the body, turning around and around, wiggling while holding someone else's hands and moving forwards and backwards in a Rock and Roll fashion is creative. Children are incredibly creative in that they come up with their own ideas to move.

Creativity that is developed through musical activities are linked to qualities such as thinking, flexibility, tolerance of ambiguity or unpredictability, and the enjoyment of things unknown. In today's world we need creative thinkers to find solutions that are fresh, innovative and exciting.

### General:

We did Be Sharp Beetles Volume 6 this quarter (yellow cover). We are doing Be Sharp Beetles Volume 7 next quarter (blue cover). Each cd costs a R 100. You can order the cd from..... Your child has the opportunity to listen to the music and this enhances his/her learning in class.

The third quarter ends on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> October. The fourth quarter starts on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> October.



### Be Sharp Beetles Encompasses:

- ♫ Musical development (an awareness and appreciation of musical genres and instruments)
- ♫ Gross motor development (jumping, running, marching, turning and doing coordinated movements with the body)
- ♫ Fine motor development (development of strong muscles in the wrist, hand and fingers)
- ♫ Rhythmic development (the ability to move to a specific rhythm like fast and slow as well as different beat patterns)
- ♫ Stimulation of the Vestibular system (the vestibular system is linked to a child's sense of balance)
- ♫ Bilateral coordination (the ability to use both sides of the body in a coordinated way)
- ♫ Language (through the use of puppets, musical stories and pictures the child's growing vocabulary is developed)
- ♫ Mathematical (music and movement stimulates problem-solving and reasoning abilities which are used in maths)
- ♫ Social development (the ability to regulate emotions, develop confidence, build friendships and resolve conflicts)

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