

Learning Conversation Notes	
Name of Partner: Leesa Albrecht – Music and Movement Classes in Partnership with the Arts Council of Placer County	Date: February 10, 2005
Number of Children Served: 85	Ages: 14 under 1, 9- 1 year olds, 43-2 year olds, 12-3 year olds, 6-4 year olds, and 1-5 year old.
When Served: September 1, 2004 - Present	Gender: 50 males and 35 females Ethnicity: 78 white, 2 multiracial, and 5 Alaskan Native/American Indian/Asian.
Conversation Participants: Leesa Albrecht, Angela Tahti, Heidi Kolbe, Paul McIntyre, Nancy Baggett, Mike Romero, Don Ferretti, and Heidi Kolbe.	
Desired Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children and families will have access to a high quality music experience and the children participating will demonstrate age appropriate skills on a continuum of music education in the studio and at home (such as: using their voice to sing; demonstrate awareness of beat and tempo, etc.). • Parents will be able to facilitate music and movement activities in their own home. These parents will also become advocates of the program, encouraging other parents to invest in their children’s early music education. • A fully realized marketing plan will yield sufficient paying customers. • By year two, most children participate through fees paid by parents for music education services. Other children participate through scholarships/subsidies available for qualified families. • Nonprofit status, specific to early music education, enables other avenues of resource development to expand this program. 	
Performance Measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demographics broken down by age, gender, ethnicity, and when services were provided • Pre and Post Session Surveys • Stories (anecdotal) related to outcomes • Digital photography and videography • Follow up phone calls to measure parent related sustainability outcomes • Student learning benchmarks of the Visual and Performing Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools Pre K-Grade Twelve and High/Scope Preschool Key Experiences 	

What is this data telling us about achievement of outcomes?

Nonprofit status has been achieved – new name is *Arts 4 All*.

There is no marketing plan yet. This is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

In speaking to the outcomes, photographs and video showed how parents are participating in music classes with their children and learning how to carry on music activities at home so that children are reaching the student learning benchmarks.

Pre-Post surveys that speak to the Student Learning benchmarks (completed by parents) show that:

56% of the children were moving or using their body to demonstrate awareness of beat and tempo often or all the time and at the end of the session 80% of the children were doing this.

At the beginning of the sessions, 59% of the children were using their voice to sing often or all the time and at the end of the session 59% were doing this. The biggest percentage of movement was with the children moving from never to some of the time.

15.6% of the children were playing simple instrumental accompaniments to songs, recorded selections, stories, and poems at the beginning of the session either often or all the time and at the end there were 47% doing this.

The above two survey results, seem like it could be a possibility that parents are buying children instruments and increasing the exposure to instruments at home but may not be encouraging their children to sing.

56% were creating movements in response to music and participating freely in musical activities either often or all of the time and at the end of the session there was 80% doing this.

46% were listening to music using body movement to respond to dynamics and tempo either often or all the time at the beginning of the session and at the end 68% were doing this. Leesa believes that this is not only attributed to the growth in the children but also to the growth in the knowledge that parents gain.

9% of the children were analyzing and describing music using body movement to respond to dynamics and tempo either often or all of the time at the beginning of the session and 40% of the children were doing this at the end of the session.

15% of the children were making up their own songs often or all the time at the beginning of the session and 36% were doing this at the end of the session.

40% of the children were interacting with musical activities over two hours a week either often or all of the time and 68% were doing this at the end of the session. This is telling Leesa that the parents are doing this independently at home, which speaks to the outcome.

Overall, the increases were pretty significant in each of the areas addressed on the survey, which speak directly to the Student Learning Benchmarks.

Anecdotes:

Parents were excited about the changes they were seeing in their children at home and out in the community. The anecdotes spoke to the outcomes and are attached to these notes.

In what ways will we apply what we have learned from our data?

- With regard to the voice usage not being as high percentage wise as the playing of instruments, she can keep emphasizing that the parents should encourage singing at home.
- It may be helpful to break down the survey results by age or gender categories.
- More reference to the brain development message may help parents see the value of initiating music at home.

Other points that were made during the conversation:

- It is hard to tell whether or not parents are more committed when they are not paying. They will track attendance and participation in relation to fees being charged.

Next Steps:

- Seeking professional assistance in developing the marketing plan.
- Add a column to survey summary to summarize the survey in a more usable way.
- Will add a check box to show whether or not children are paying or are subsidized.
- Develop a follow up survey to administer to parents from the first session to measure sustainability of the knowledge and activities they gained through the class.
- They will add written material about brain development and First 5 Placer to the family activities kit.
- Meet again in July.