A Holistic Approach to Teaching Young Students with Autism for a 30-Minute Virtual Lesson

A developing abundance of knowledge and information on teaching music to students with autism can be found through a wide array of books, articles, workshops, webinars, and online resources. To teach young students with autism, who have different levels of functionality, effective teaching methods will be needed for a successful virtual lesson. The purpose of this research will be to provide pedagogical approaches to teaching young students with autism musical concepts and activities for a 30 min virtual lesson, watching video clips of teacher’s demonstrations.

For an integrative and person-centered lesson, there will be four practical steps for young students with autism.

1. **Explaining:** Musical concepts or piano techniques without abstracts, metaphors, and analogies will be introduced.

2. **Demonstrating:** The teacher will show young students with autism how to play and express what he or she will learn in a step-by-step process.

3. **Doing:** The student will practice the same things that the teacher has demonstrated during the lesson.

   * Demonstrating and doing will be constantly repeated through communicating with a student until the student can understand the teacher’s demonstrations.

4. **Correcting:** The teacher will find out the student’s difficult portions and will have the student correctly and repeatedly practice weak parts in small segments.
Here will be musical activities for a 30-minute virtual lesson plan

1. Correct hand position and finger exercises (numbers and scales) to develop fine motor skills for 5 minutes.
2. Score reading and playing with color-coding for 10 minutes.
3. Copy game for ear training to improve a good sense of listening skills for 5 minutes.
4. Review student’s favorite pieces with encouragement and accomplishment for 5 minutes.