

## **STAGES OF TONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RHYTHM DEVELOPMENT**

Although all children develop at different rates, most children progress through a similar sequence before reaching basic music competence.

### **TONAL DEVELOPMENT**

1. Your child sings songs utilizing mostly one pitch. This is the note that is easiest for his or her vocal chords to produce.
2. Your child sings songs going up when the melody goes up, and going down when the melody goes down. The notes he/she sings are not the exact notes of the song but the up and down pitch of notes are in the right direction.
3. Your child sings parts of a song correctly. Usually the parts done correctly are the very beginning or very end of a song.
4. Your child sings most of a song in tune.
5. Your child sings entire songs in tune.

### **RHYTHM DEVELOPMENT**

1. Your child moves to music in an irregular way.
2. Your child moves or sings with a consistent tempo. That tempo is the child's own pace and is usually different than the tempo of the music.
3. Your child's movements often coincide to the beat of the music. He or she sings parts of songs in the correct tempo and meter.
4. Your child's movements always coincide to the beat of the music. Your child sings entire songs in the correct tempo and meter.