

Using Cantata Books from Toddler to Pre-School

Non-readers and pre-readers will use the engaging music to focus on the earliest of skills as concepts in print are reinforced by the beautiful illustrations, bold words on each page, and the rhythmic music that accompanies every book. The earliest of learners will explore:

- That print is all around us
- Printed words are different from pictures
- Words have meaning
- How we hold a book, where the front cover, title and author are found
- That printed words are read left to right
- That there are individual words on each page – voice/print match

How to use Cantata Learning books with Toddler to Pre-School Students:

Read for Enjoyment: The books can be used purely for enjoyment to fully engage young non- and pre-readers. With book in hand and the CD playing – a multi-sensory experience keeps students focused. Books with music help students see reading as a joyful event!

Teach Concepts: Use the books and music to introduce the earliest of concepts like counting or ABC's. Learning to sing along to the song helps non-readers to feel like they are “reading” as the pages turn with every verse. This helps to increase confidence and encourage individual exploration into books and words.

Play and Learn through Music: Use the playful music to invite students to move and freely express themselves through dance. Concepts like faster and slower, louder and softer, stop and start, and more can all be explored with the youngest of children through dance, movement and singing.

Extend the Experience: Incorporate clapping hands, homemade instruments, or simply count with the beat, or “tap” out individual words. Draw to music – allowing the listening experience to inspire color, line, and visual expression of any kind. Play to music – allowing the music to serve as a backdrop to any activity increasing familiarity and connection to the lyrics, the individual words, and the rhythm.

By engaging the whole brain in a learning activity, children of varying learning styles are more likely to remain engaged, excited, and focused on what's being shared or taught.