



Toolkit for Early Childhood String Teaching

Plus a preview of the best selling Stringosaurus resource:

Treasury of Violin and Viola Games

By Laura Carr



STRINGOSAURUS
EARLY CHILDHOOD VIOLIN RESOURCES

Dear Teachers,

I hope the preview of my Violin and Viola Games brings you joy! These games are easily adaptable for cellists too. I have also included some of the materials covered today in our workshop for your convenience.

The notes plus some really short video summaries are available at:

Stringosaurus.com/AUSTA22

The full e-Book Treasury of Games can be purchased at:

Stringosaurus.com/store

Alternatively, you can access all 70+ resources, including everything in my store at an incredible price.

Sign up at Stringosaurus.com/register



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Unrestricted access	Cancellation at any time

Objectives:

- Children create an awareness of how they hold everyday items
- They focus on their hands and how they feel
- Children discover that they can have more control when balancing their hold as opposed to gripping with all their might
- Children understand the importance of keeping their hand supple and responsive
- They explore the importance of the thumb when picking up items.

HOW DO YOU HOLD YOUR TOOTHBRUSH?

How do you hold your toothbrush?

Do you hold it scrunched like this?

Imagine if you tried to brush like this?

It would make a mess!

YES!

It would make a mess!



ROW, ROW, ROW YOUR BOAT

EXERCISE NUMBER ONE

Objectives:

- To loosen up arms and shoulders and hands away from the violin
- Feel the natural weight of the arms
- Gradually gain momentum
- Free up the back when swinging arms from side to side

Swing your arms - both of them!

Swing, swing, swing your arms,
Swing them to and fro.
Swing them here and swing them there,
Swing them high and low

(Repeat the bottom line again, singing:
Swing from side to side!)



ROW, ROW, ROW YOUR BOAT

EXERCISE NUMBER TWO

Objectives:

- To have an awareness of the left arm and shoulders, even when holding the violin
- To keep the shoulder and arm free, loose and supple so that the arm can swing freely under the violin in playing position.

Swing your arm - just under your violin

Swing, swing, swing your arm,
Under your violin,
If your arm is super loose,
Give a giant grin!



ROW, ROW, ROW YOUR BOAT

EXERCISE NUMBER THREE

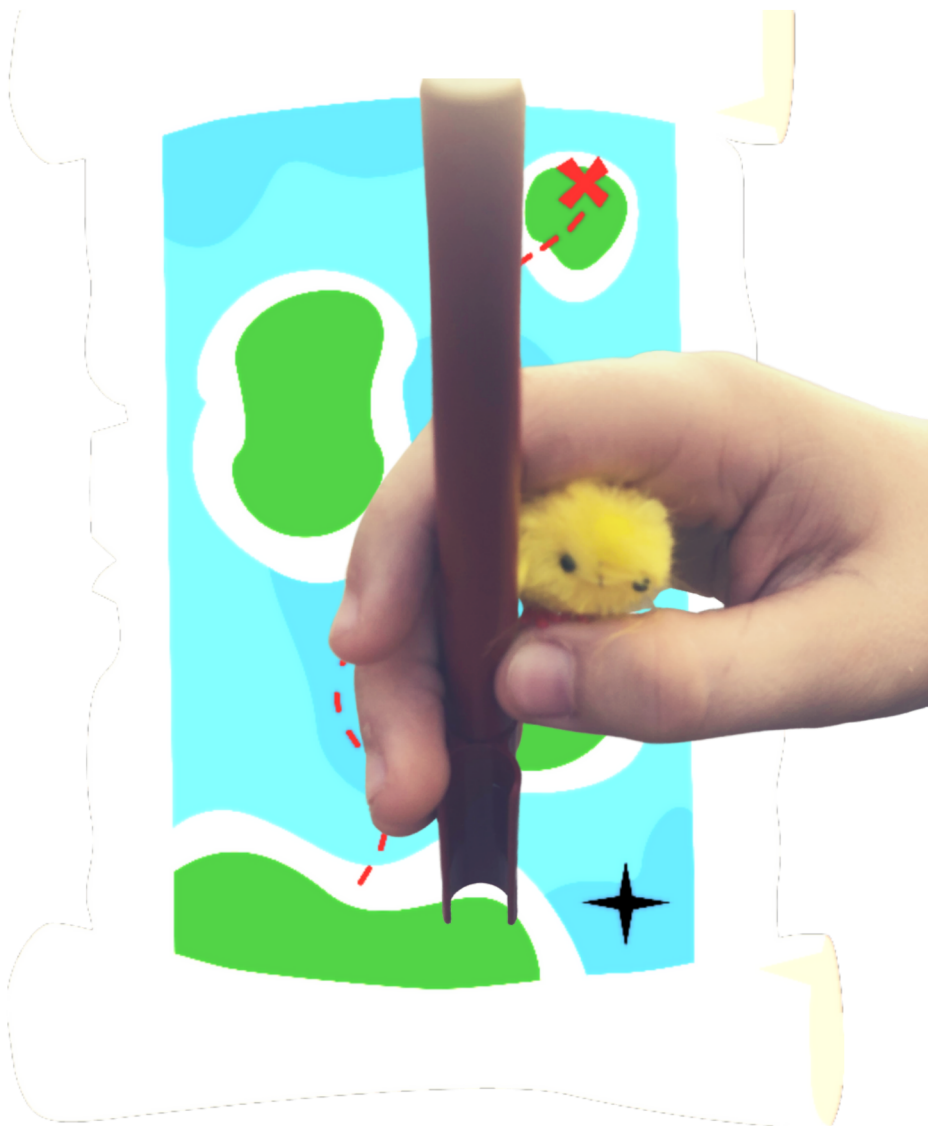
Objectives:

- Keep the shoulders supple and left arm loose under the violin
- For the left arm, hand and thumb to be loose and light to enable sliding up and down the strings

Skate Skate

Skate, skate, skate your hand,
Skate it to and fro.
Slide it up and slide it down,
Slide it up and go... WHOOSH!

Adventurer: Tuck a little figurine into the gap that the bent thumb creates. Take the character for an exciting journey around the room, being careful to keep the thumb gently curved so as not to squash him. Whoosh him up into space and move him from side to side. Make the journey as interesting as possible whilst checking the bow hold. Give the character a mission, for example, to keep the pinky gently curved the whole time.





Feeding time: Find a hand puppet with an enormous mouth. This character LOVES to eat marshmallows, soft bow holds. Everyone has a go at feeding the puppet their squishy bow holds.



Scarf bowing: Hold a silk scarf gently between the thumb and second finger. Follow a bowing pattern with long flowing movements. The teacher plays the song whilst the children pull and push down bows and up bows with their scarves.



Try not to laugh: Grab a feather and with your student's permission, tickle their left wrist in the gap between the wrist and the instrument. If they laugh they're out.



Are you ready to immediately transform your early childhood string teaching?

You know you want to create success for yourself and your students, that is why you are here, looking for ways to improve and grow. We all know that teaching beginners is hugely complex and challenging. Add early childhood to the mix and the idea of success may feel distant, overwhelming and exhausting.

- How do you keep their attention?
- How do you pace getting great technical outcomes whilst keeping lessons interesting and fun?
- How do you ensure that children are being trained as musicians as well as string players?
- Does structuring and scaffolding skills feel overwhelmingly complex?

The Stringosaurus Resources Hub and teaching community are transformational. My highly sought after resources and bespoke support and community package focuses on what you need to build a thriving studio of early childhood learners.

- Teachers feel personally valued and supported.
- There is a real sense of community.
- New, amazing resources launched monthly into the hub, inspired and requested by you, the teacher.

Sign up to have immediate access to all 70+ amazing teaching resources, including the Treasury of Games e-Book, beautiful e-Book stories, play-along and interactive videos, printables as well as support with your early childhood string teaching.

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