

**INFANTS' RESPONSES TO HEARING FAMILIAR WORKS IN A  
LIVE CONCERT**

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Preparing children for concerts through familiarization with the pieces is a well accepted part of the music curriculum in kindergarten through high school in many parts of the world.

In the project here described the practice is adapted to the needs of infants. After a prolonged period of preparation making use of musical mirrors and dances the infants experience a concert while they were held in their care givers arms.

As with older children, the activities presented to the children focus on salient aspects of grouping, directionality and energy flow.

The response of the infants to the live musical encounter is studied through an analysis of their attention span, movement responses and overt expressions of feelings (enjoyment joy of recognition, imitation, fatigue, etc.) These responses are compared to the reaction to an unfamiliar piece, which holds less the attention of the infants.