

Level 3

Suzuki Book 1*

Levels are represented using the Suzuki books as the primary pedagogical framework. Students will be given plenty of opportunities to explore a variety styles outside of these books if they choose to do so, especially after Book 4. The importance lies in the development of the underlying skills, not in the specific repertoire itself.

I. Continued development of earlier concepts

II. Learn the 3 stages of all pieces

1. *Learning Notes*

1. Bow

1. Bow divisions, directions, and strokes

2. Fingers

1. Which fingers go down when and how do they go down

3. Form

1. Know the form of the piece - dynamics, phrasing, tempo, and style eventually get included here

4. Practice

1. Deliberate practice which leads to fluency, ease, consistent growth and artistry!

2. *Fluency, ease, and skill development through Review*

1. By continuing to play a piece after it is learned, what was initially challenging becomes easy. The piece can then be used to introduced more subtle skills and refine existing ones to higher levels.

3. *Artistic Stage - Expressive and emotional engagement with the music!*

1. At this stage, we bring our lived experience in contact with music as a means of connecting with and communicating something deeper within ourselves. We've all heard *that song* that has moved us in some way. This is the stage we are always striving for as artists and only comes when the performer has progressed beyond the mere technical requirements of the piece.

III. Book 1 Scales & Arpeggios

A. 1 Octave A and D Major

B. 2 Octave G Major

IV. Teaching points for Level 3. Each successive piece contains technical elements learned in the previous songs in addition to new skills. Because of this, it is important to achieve fluency (the 2nd stage of a piece) before moving onto the next song, otherwise these skills will pile up too quickly and can easily become overwhelming!

A. Twinkle Variations

1. Form: ABBA

2. A Major Scale

3. 4/4 Time
 4. Half note (use upper half of bow/slower bow speed)
- B. Lightly Row**
1. Form: AA'BA'
 2. Starting on E with 1st and 2nd fingers down on A
 3. Introduces "skips" - First Arpeggio (A Major)
- C. Song of the Wind - Major technical growth piece**
1. Form: ABB'
 2. Circle bow/circle set
 3. Hopping 5th - Independent Finger
 4. E-A-E crossing
 5. Repeat sign
- D. Go Tell Aunt Rhody**
1. Form: ABB'A
 2. Starting on a finger rather than open string
 3. Faster string crossing (1/8th note)
 4. Will introduce the use of 4th finger here in Review after song is mastered using open E
 5. Releasing 2 to open
 6. Dynamics: Forte & Piano
- E. O Come, Little Children - Major technical growth piece**
1. Form: AABC
 2. Change to "grown up bow hold"
 3. Using the whole bow
 4. Bow division - W (whole) H (half)
 5. Up bow start
 6. Completely independent 3rd finger
 7. Pickup
 8. Double ups
 9. Dotted quarter note
 10. Eighth rest
 11. Dynamics: Crescendo & Decrescendo
 12. Exercises
 - a) Silent bow placements
 - b) Whole bow circles
 - c) Bow wanderings
- F. INTERLUDE: Are you doing your preliminary shifting and vibrato exercises?**
1. Sliding the Magic X and silent/ghosty slides.
 2. Finger taps and peg knockers