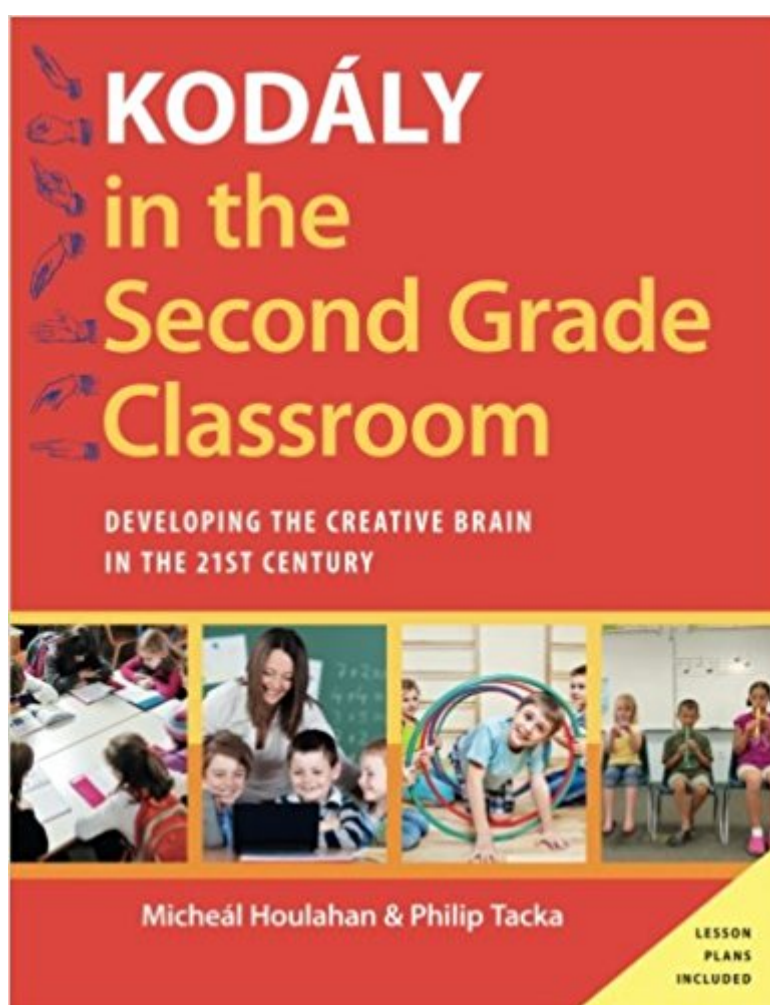


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# Kodály In The Second Grade Classroom: Developing The Creative Brain In The 21st Century (Kodaly Today Handbook Series)



## Synopsis

Since the mid-twentieth century, Zoltán Kodály's child-developmental philosophy for teaching music has had significant positive impact on music education around the world, and is now at the core of music teaching in the United States and other English speaking countries. The Kodály Today handbook series is the first comprehensive system to update and apply the Kodály concepts to teaching music in elementary school classrooms. *Kodály in the Second Grade Classroom* provides teachers with a step-by-step road map for developing children's performance, creative movement, and literacy skills in an organic and thoughtful manner. Through six years of field-testing with music kindergarten teachers in the United States, Great Britain, and Hungary (the home country of Zoltán Kodály), authors Michele Houlihan and Philip Tacka have developed a methodology specifically for 21st century classrooms. Houlihan and Tacka use the latest research findings in cognition and perception to create a system not only appropriate for the developmental stages of second grade students but also one which integrates vertically between elementary music classes. The methods outlined in this volume encourage greater musical ability and creativity in children by teaching them to sing, move, play instruments, and develop music literacy skills. In addition, *Kodály in the Second Grade Classroom* promotes critical thinking, problem solving, and collaboration skills. Although the book uses the Kodály philosophy, its methodology has also been tested by teachers certified in Orff and Dalcroze, and has proven an essential guide for teachers no matter what their personal philosophy and specific training might be. Numerous children's songs are incorporated into *Kodály in the Second Grade Classroom*, as well as over 35 detailed lesson plans that demonstrate how music and literacy curriculum goals are transformed into tangible musical objectives. Scholarly yet practical and accessible, this volume is sure to be an essential guide for kindergarten and early childhood music teachers everywhere.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Drs. Michele Houlahan and Philip Tacka are co-authors of: *Kodály Today: A Cognitive Approach to Elementary Music Education* and *From Sound to Symbol: Fundamentals of Music, the Sound Thinking Series* including *Music for Sight-Singing and Ear Training Volumes I & II* and *Sound Thinking: Developing Musical Literacy Volumes I & II*; *Zoltán Kodály: A Guide to Research*; and numerous articles. Both have presented papers both nationally and internationally on aspects of music theory, music history and Kodály studies and perception and cognition. They are faculty members for the Kodály Certification Program at Texas State University.

If you teach elementary music and want to do so effectively, you should probably purchase this entire series right away. It's incredible! The best part is that each book contains a year worth of units divided into sequential lessons and with specific repertoire (though there is plenty of flexibility if you want to use other repertoire for some parts of lessons). Even if your kids aren't caught up to the sequence (my 5th graders are currently on 2nd grade concepts), the lessons work and are adaptable to your students, your equipment, your classroom, your administration, and your overall situation. These books are an amazing resource for elementary music teacher and something that the elementary music world has been lacking for much too long. The lessons can also serve as an outline that can be supplemented with other activities (concert prep, Orff activities, instrumental performance, etc).

Houlahan and Tacka are incredible! This is an AMAZING resource for the Kodaly structured classroom!! I highly recommend this and all of the coordinating resources from these amazing instructors, authors, and mentors!!!

Really good. Almost too good. How does the busy music teacher read it all?

Great resource for Music teachers.

The book is very helpful.

This series of books, along with Kodaly Today, are an indispensable tool in the classroom. The authors have done all the work of gathering the songs and organizing them into an effective learning sequence. This is usually the most cumbersome step of going through Kodaly levels, allowing you to focus on developing your own teaching skills. The books include step-by-step lesson plans for the whole year, as well as organized indexes of songs and teaching strategies for each concept. Side note: The authors teach a certification course at Texas State that illuminates how to better use the books- I highly recommend taking Levels with them.

I cannot begin to express how indispensable these books are to my teaching. My principal walked in when I was teaching 2nd grade and was impressed by the level of engagement in my classroom. Every student was on task and fully involved in the lesson. I'm thoroughly impressed by the improvement of their personal musicianship as well as my own. In addition if you ever have a question the authors will answer you back. I would recommend these books to any of my colleagues.

Kodaly in the Second Grade Classroom is a MUST have for any elementary music teacher! It provides researched-based and thoughtful sequential lessons for the 2nd grade classroom.

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