
词汇: *music* 音乐

It's difficult not to admire the talent of a skilled musician. Whether it be a **pianist**, **flautist** or **cellist**, these individuals have shown **dedication** and **passion** over a long period of time to reach the highest levels of performance. But they say it's never too late to learn. So what are the benefits, for both children and adults, in learning a musical instrument?

Learning to play a musical instrument when growing up can improve hearing in adulthood. According to a study by Dr Nina Kraus, Professor of Neurobiology at Northwestern University in Illinois, US, children who played musical instruments were better at recognising different **frequencies**. This improved hearing skill carried over into later life with adults who had once played an instrument able to discern sounds of different **pitches** more easily. And it could also have some academic benefits too. A study conducted by the University of British Columbia found that students who engaged in music-related activities during grades 7-12 scored significantly higher in science, English and maths.

And there are not just benefits to children. Whether you choose to play the piano, **pick** or **strum** a **guitar** or learn a **drumbeat**, you could end up joining a **band** or **orchestra**. This in turn could improve your social life, meeting other **bandmates** who are likeminded in their love of a good **tune**. Learning an instrument can also give you a sense of achievement. **Nailing** that perfect **chord** is one way, but what if you got together with a bunch of friends and entered into a **battle of the bands** – and won?

So, whether you're looking to destress playing out some chords, or improve your grades at school, maybe taking up an instrument could help you.

词汇表

pianist	钢琴家
flautist	长笛手
cellist	大提琴手
dedication	专注, 投入
passion	热情
frequency	频率
pitch	音高
pick	弹拨
strum	扫拨
guitar	吉他
drumbeat	鼓点
band	乐队
orchestra	管弦乐队
bandmate	乐队中的队友
tune	曲子
nail	成功地做
chord	和弦
battle of the bands	“乐队大赛” (指表演选出最优秀乐队的比赛)

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. According to the article, what do musicians have to show to reach the highest levels of performance?

2. According to a study by Dr Nina Kraus, what were children who played music better at recognising?

3. Students who engaged in music-related activities in grades 7-12 scored higher in which subjects, according to a study?

4. How could learning an instrument improve your social life?

5. In what ways could learning an instrument give you a sense of achievement?

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. He has shown real _____ to his work.

dedication	strum	drumbeat	pick
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2. You need to _____ the guitar from top to bottom to make that sound.

frequencies	passion	itches	strum
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3. You did well in the test. You really _____ it.

picked	nailed	tuned	frequencies
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4. We've decided to create a group and compete in the next _____ of the bands.

war	battle	fight	skirmish
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5. She shows exceptional _____ towards her music. She loves it!

drumbeat	passion	pick	tune
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. According to the article, what do musicians have to show to reach the highest levels of performance?

Musicians have shown dedication and passion to reach the highest levels of performance.

2. According to a study by Dr Nina Kraus, what were children who played music better at recognising?

Children who played musical instruments were better at recognising different frequencies.

3. Students who engaged in music-related activities in grades 7-12 scored higher in which subjects, according to a study?

Students who engaged in music-related activities during grades 7-12 scored significantly higher in science, English and maths.

4. How could learning an instrument improve your social life?

You could end up joining a band or orchestra and meet other bandmates who are likeminded in their love of a good tune.

5. In what ways could learning an instrument give you a sense of achievement?

Learning an instrument can give you a sense of achievement through nailing that perfect chord or getting together with a bunch of friends and entering into a battle of the bands.

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. He has shown real **dedication** to his work.

2. You need to **strum** the guitar from top to bottom to make that sound.

3. You did well in the test. You really **nailed** it.

4. We've decided to create a group and compete in the next **battle** of the bands.

5. She shows exceptional **passion** towards her music. She loves it!