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Teach Me German (Paperback And Audio CD): A Musical Journey Through The Day

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Synopsis

A Musical Journey Through the Day Introduce kid's to the German language through songs and story. Learn days of the week, numbers, colors, and the alphabet as you sing along and learn. Sings include the ABC Song, Head Shoulders Knees & Toes, One Elephant and many more familiar tunes. Includes paperback book and audio CD.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Great for children learning German. Has both English and German versions of popular American kindergarten/preschool songs.

I am a preschool teacher and the songs and lyrics come in handy. I wish they put more time in between each song to have the children repeat, other then that it's good.

My kids LOVE this c.d....the ONLY drawback is they speak and sing too quickly, like they're rushing through it....makes it harder for the kids to pick it up quickly....

My 5 year old loves this and I think it's cute the kids are actually NOT native speakers of German. German Mom

As a native German-speaker raising children in an English-speaking country I am constantly looking for good German-language products. My best source has been our local library, and in the case of this product I am very glad I listened to the CD before ordering this item on-line.While the selection of songs is quite comprehensive and some of the singers sing quite well, I was very disappointed by the German pronunciation of some of the singers. This is NOT German. This is German very poorly spoken by a native English speaker. For example, the letter "R" in German is a guttural sound, on the CD it is pronounced like an English 'r'. Of all the German songs on this CD less than a handful were pronounced correctly. I cringed listening to the German songs. The numbers and the alphabet were recorded in very poor German. If you really want to learn German do so from a CD with the correct native pronunciation. Making and selling a language CD with poor diction is a disservice to those eager to learn another language. Even my husband, whose German is rudimentary, picked out the English accents in the German songs!If you would like to expose your child to German, the BBC series "Muzzy" is a good way to start and will also help you learn the language in a fun manner.

My husband has studied German for many years and wanted our children to be familiar with the language as well. I have never taken any German courses, so I decided to rely on CDs, books, and movies to expose our children to the language. This is the first set we purchased. There are a total of 19 songs on here that my son enjoyed listening to from the age of 2 (and my daughter at just a few months). The songs are sung in German and English both - they are not literal translations, but done so that they rhyme. The general concept of the song is the same though. The songs are:The More We Get TogetherBruder Jakob (Are You Sleeping)Days of the WeekHead, Shoulders, Knees & ToesRain Song MedleyNumbersAlphabetMary Had a Little LambOne ElephantBruderschen komm tanz mit mirThe Wheels on the CarHush Little BabyOn The BridgeSix Little DucksHanschen kleinOh! SusannaTwinkle, Twinkle Little StarSchlah, Kindlein SchlafGute Nacht meine FreundeThere is a book that accompanies the CD; it's too advanced for my children at this point in time, but the illustrations DO help when you are listening to the CD. (The CD goes through a day in the life of "Maria" - the book shows pictures of things like Maria's family, her school day, and such)Even though I have never taken German, I can say the alphabet and count to 10 - as can my children. They also have a VERY VERY basic start to learning the German language. We have ordered the "Teach me MORE German" sequal to this and hope to be as pleased with it as we are with this one.I highly recommend this for exposing young children to the German language.My only complaint is that the songs are sung by young children; the pronunciation and clarity isn't always

great.

I am a bit confused by some of the other reviews and felt compelled to write one myself. I was raised in America, in a German-speaking household. I did not find the pronounciation to be "off" or "wrong" as I did the German CD put out by Twin Sisters Productions, which used American children with American accents trying to speak German. My children love this CD and recognized some of the songs from my singing them. I got this first from the library and sought it out for purchase. The important point I must make is that other languages do not translate literally into English. These songs have not been butchered to make them fit the music, that is what is referred to as "idiomatic translation". Some words and phrases cannot be translated exactly. Eric Carle's "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" in German is "Die Kleine Raupe Nimmersatt" or The Tiny Caterpillar Never-satisfied (Hungry). Even this is not precise; just check out titles of American DVDs in German on .de. Also, as far as "more German songs" on the CD, many of these songs have been sung in German for just as long as they have in English, maybe longer. My grandparents used to sing me "Mein Hut der hat drei Ecken" (My Hat Has Three Corners) already when I was a toddler and I never knew it existed in English until I heard it on Barney when my son was watching it. Also young children don't always sing so well, and I think it sounds very realistic, as if we were sitting in on a real Kindergarten class. I think this poor CD is getting a bad reputation, undeservingly. It's really inspiring my children to want to learn German instead of getting irritated when I speak it to them.

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