



After a while the boys began putting stickers on my mom's brand new piano.

Her pride and joy!

Then they proceeded to pound on the keys and fight over who got to touch which keys.

I knew my mother would have a fit at the sight of this, but a light bulb came on inside my head.



I responded by placing some of the stickers onto various keys, and the boys moved all of theirs onto the keys, too.



Soon just the ivory keys sported yellow, pink, green and orange pricing stickers (instead of Mom's unblemished mahogany).

Noah, recognizing his favorite color, yelled, "Yellow!" He pressed the key.

Elijah responded by shouting, "Green!" and pressing the green key.



Then I copied them by saying "Orange!" and playing that key.

After a few minutes of this, Elijah changed the game so that he would play the yellow and pink keys, and I would play the keys that were white.



Soon Noah wanted a turn playing the orange and green. So they happily switched seats, and we continued our game.

I was so excited that they were both able to get along so well, respect my mother's prize possession, and explore the various sounds of the piano.

Elijah even helped Noah learn three new colors.

The best part is all of this was accomplished while having a lot of fun together.

"Since that day they have continued to want to play the piano together without a single conflict."

Submitted as a Project of Understanding

Module D2 - Playing Responsively

opening up new ways of being by following playfully the  
initiations of the children

*"Being responsive means, being receptive, open, approachable,  
alert, and quick to respond."*

by Breanne McCrea