

Activity 2 – Making sensory toys

Make a musical instrument

What to do

- Look at your collected materials together and explore the different sounds you can make by hitting, scraping, shaking and plucking (wind instruments are much harder than they look!).
- Explore combining materials to make new sounds (*rice in a crisp tube to make a shaker, elastic bands stretched over a box can be plucked, paper, cellophane or a balloon pulled over a jar to make a drum, etc.*)
- You can enjoy keeping the materials fixed in temporary ways to allow for continual rebuilding and design changes or fix more permanently to make an instrument which can be decorated, played with and performed with.

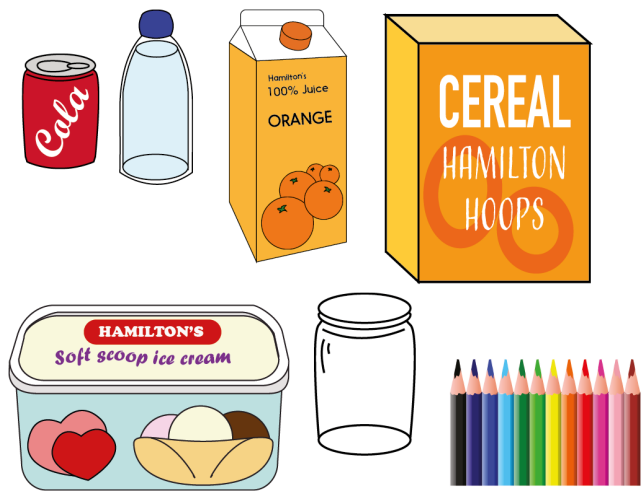
What you need

Recycled packaging (*such as boxes, tins, tubes, plastic tubs, paper, paper cups, jar lids, tins, bottle tops, cellophane wrappers*).

Things to make shaker filling (e.g. rice, sand)

String, elastic bands, ribbons, balloons

Pencils as beaters



Extension

Play along with your favourite music.

Make a band and play together.

Sing along with *I am the Music Man*:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Pge14jv2Ss>

With careful supervision, make a water xylophone by filling jars or bottles with water to make different notes when you tap them.

Questions to ask

What sounds can we make?

How can we make a sound with this material?

Can you make the sound louder or quieter?

Can we make the pitch higher or lower?

How can we fix the materials together?

Can you make a rhythm/tune?

Lots of ideas for making musical instruments can be found at: <https://feltmagnet.com/crafts/Music-Instruments-for-Kids-to-Make>