



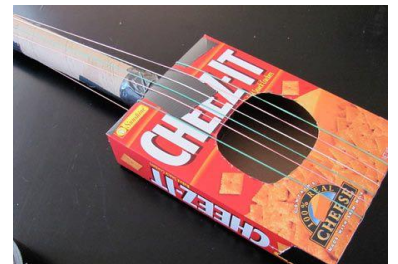
Time to Make Some Music!



Music promotes all areas of children's development and skills. It helps the body and mind to work together and it builds on children's motor skills, coordination and control. It is a great way to develop self-expression and to unleash children's creativity.

Make some homemade instruments

Creating music together can be a fun activity and is a great way to explore different aspects of Music. Try creating shakers by using pasta and rice in empty bottles. You can fill them with varying amounts of different materials and scrape them with spoons or twigs to make sounds. Why not try making your own guitar using a box and some rubber bands? Wrap the rubber bands around the box to create strings and make sure there is space between them. Don't forget to cut a hole on the front of the box to create a sound hole. Can you pluck a known nursery rhyme or tune? Can your family members guess the tune you have played?



Listen and Draw

Music helps us to keep calm and carry on! Can you 'dance with your hands' and draw to a piece of music? Use crayons, pencils, pens or paints to draw lines, shapes, symbols or patterns that represent the music you have listened to. You can extend this activity by thinking about different colours you can use to show how the music makes you feel. For example, if it is dramatic, you might draw sharp, dark lines. If it reminds you of a bumble bee, you could draw short spiral lines in yellow and black. You might want to take a look at Wassily Kandinsky's work on this to inspire your ideas and creativity.



Outdoor Music Making Area

Go around your home and see if you can find some old objects such as bowls, pots and pans. Hang them up and attach them to an outdoor area. Explore and experiment with making different sounds. Can you form a band with your family and perform a known nursery rhyme or song?



Name that Tune

Clap or tap your favourite nursery rhyme or song. See if your family can guess what it is. You can make it more challenging by trying to clap it faster or with fewer beats.



Create a Sound Story

Can you create a piece of music to represent your favourite story? Think about the personalities of different characters and the sounds you might hear in the settings. For example, if you were retelling the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, you might create high pitched sounds for Goldilocks and play slow, deep sounds for the bear's footprints. You can extend this activity by creating a graphic score. This is where you draw pictures or symbols to represent the sounds you created. See if a family member can follow your score and play your piece of music. Can they match each sound to the character or setting it represents from the story?

