



DIY Musical Instruments

Make your own homemade instruments using household products!

Have fun making sounds and decorate the instruments in any way
you like! Adult supervision recommended for all DIY
constructions.

Tupperware Tom toms

What you need: Empty soup/cylindrical food container, balloons, elastic band,

pencil/chopstick, tissue paper, masking tape

Instructions: Cut bottom out of container. Cut end off balloon and cover the top of cylinder, securing it on with an elastic band and some duct tape if necessary. Crumple up the tissue paper, wrap in masking tape to secure to pencil/chopstick for drum stick. To decorate, wrap your



drum in coloured paper and then drum along to your favourite song!

Pringle Can Drum



What you need: Empty Pringle tubes (ideally 7 but can be made with less), duct tape, drum sticks (see above for DIY drum sticks), dried rice/beans/sand

Instructions: place the Pringle tubes in a circle with one in the centre and 6 surrounding. Use duct tape to tape the tubes together. You can also use the duct tape to make a strap for the drum - measure out the length so it can fit around the neck, fold the tape in half so it sticks together and attach to the drum!

Optional extra!: To turn your toms into steel pans, fill each Pringle can with a different amount of rice/beans etc, secure your Pringle lids with tape and flip your drums over to hit the metal side instead and start your own carnival!

CD Cymbals

What you need: Old CD's, strip of fabric/ribbon Instructions: Loop strip of fabric through CD hole and tie it so that it will fit snugly around three or four of your child's fingers

While your CDs may not make the resounding crash that real cymbals do, they certainly produce a fun and satisfying "clack", and if you stick a coin to either you can get more of a percussive sound!



Groovy Guitar

What you need: shoebox/cereal box/tissue box, scissors, elastic bands (varying sizes/thickness if possible!), paper towel roll



Instructions: cut a hole in the centre of the box to make your sound hole (use a cup to trace the hole) and at the top of the box to attach the neck (paper towel roll). Place the paper towel roll into the hole at the top and use tape to secure it to the box. Stretch 4-6 elastic bands around the box and, again, secure the bands in place with

tape at the top and bottom of the box and rock the night away!

Boppin' Baby Banjo

What you need: Jar lids, small elastic bands, lollipop sticks, duct tape



Instructions: Place four bands around the lid and secure in place with a piece of duct tape. Attach the lollipop stick to the back of the lid with another piece of duct tape and you're ready to strum away!

Cacophonous Kazoo

What you need: cardboard tube (toilet paper roll or paper towel roll), scissors,

greaseproof paper, rubber band

Instructions: cover the end of the tube with the greaseproof paper securing it on with an elastic band. Poke a hole in the side of the cardboard tube. Decorate as you please! Put the open end of the cardboard tube up to your mouth and hum or vocalise to make the kazoo sound!



Singing Straws

What you need: 6-8 straws, scissors, tape

Instructions: Cut straws into different lengths (you should have 2 straws for each length). Cut a long strip of sticky tape and put the straws on the sticky side arranging them in twos from the shortest to the longest. Secure well so straws won't move around.





Priceless Pan flute

What you need: as many bottles (plastic/glass) as you like water

Instructions: Add different levels of water into each bottle. Blow across the top of the bottle and see if you can make a tune! Decorate the bottles if you wish!



Shakin' Shakers

What you need: plastic bottle/paper plates/empty tins or tubs, noise-making item (rice/beans/pebbles)

Instructions: Decorate and fill with noise-making item making sure ends are secure so nothing falls out. If you're using a paper plate, fold the plate in half and secure edges using tape, leaving a little slot at the top to fill with your rice and beans. Once filled, seal up your slot and decorate the plate and shake, shake, shake, senora!



Egg-ceptionally Egg-citing Maracas

What you need: empty egg carton, scissors, paint/colouring markers, lollipop stick, glue/tape, rice/beans

Instructions: Cut sections from an egg carton. Decorate the outside of the cups.



Fill one side with rice/beans. Add glue to the rim and place the lollipop stick in place where you would like the handle to be. Place the other side of the cup on top and hold in place to stick. Wrap tape around seam to ensure its secure, and your egg-

cellent shaker is complete!

Bottle Cap Bonanza

What you need: as many bottle caps as you can collect!, rope/shopping bag handles, string/ribbon, penknife

Instructions: Pierce small holes in the bottle caps big enough to thread string/ribbon through. Attach to rope or shopping bag handle and shake it all around!



Rattlin' Rain Stick

What you need: sturdy cardboard tube (tin foil or greaseproof paper tube), paper, elastic bands, rice/beans/beads

Instructions: decorate tube using paint/stickers/cover in paper and use colouring

pencils. Cover top with paper and secure with elastic band. Fill with rice/beans/beads and cover other end with paper and secure with a second elastic band. Move gently from side to side and imagine the rainfall!



Zazzy Xylophone

What you need: Empty jars or drinking glasses, food colouring/paint, water, water jug, wooden/metal spoon

Instructions: Place jars in a line. Fill up water jug. Fill first jar to the top with

water and fill the rest of the jars with a little less water each time. Add a swirl of paint or drop of food colouring to each jar. Watch the dye/paint spread or mix it right up to make it spread faster! Play your water xylophone by tapping the jars with your wooden/metal spoon and listening to the different sounds each jar makes - see if you can make a tune!

