

Even more ideas

Making simple instruments

Make drums from upturned pots and pans, sweet tins, washing-up bowls etc, Use wooden spoons for beaters

Make shakers from small drinks bottles, filled with buttons or other things that make a sound

Make a tambourine by sticking two paper plates together filled with buttons or other things that make a sound when shaken or tapped

Make a guitar by stretching rubber bands over an empty tissue box across the hole

Make a music line by stringing different metal objects on a line and beat them with wooden spoons e.g. pans, colanders, teapots, jugs, large spoons, lids

Families at Play

Families at Play is a series of information leaflets that offer enjoyable and exciting activities for you

Other leaflets available in the Families at Play series:

Physical Activity over 2's

Physical Activity under 2's

Messy Play over 2's

Messy Play under 2's

Water Play over 2's

Water Play under 2's

Sound and Music over 2's

Sound and Music under 2's

Mark Making over 2's

Mark Making under 2's

Playdough over 2's

Exploring under 2's

Small World over 2's

Pretend Play under 2's

Sound and Music

over 2's



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Early Years Childcare
Improvement Team



Why is sound and music so important?

From 2-3 yrs your child may develop a more advanced musical sense including:

- Recognising the difference between loud and quiet, fast and slow
- Keeping track of a beat and recognising rhythms by imitating them
- Learning the words to simple songs
- Developing the co-ordination needed to play simple instruments.
- Learning to co-operate with other children

From 3-5 years your child may begin to:

- Become more aware of pitch and rhythm
- Sing more complex songs as language skills grow
- Cope with more sophisticated movement to music, and explore and play with new sounds and instruments

How will this help my child?

Taking part in music related activity can help your child's development in many ways:

Physical Development-moving to music is great exercise, and playing instruments can improve motor skills

Social skills-taking turns to sing and play, and building self-esteem

Emotional Development-recognising feelings through different types of music

Language-learning songs and rhymes can help early language development

Creativity-learning to dance, making instruments

Numeracy-counting beats and keeping time



What will we do?

- Offer your child a broad range of musical experiences
- Start with simple instruments like drums, shakers or bells progressing to xylophones, or toy pianos/keyboards
- Continue with repetition- they love to hear their favourite tunes over and over
- Give them independent access to instruments and tapes/CDs so they can choose for themselves
- Teach your child to take turns singing and dancing
- Encourage listening skills by sitting and listening to music together

Try to have music playing in the background instead of the TV