

Make Music Day

Tuesday, June 21st

Tambourine

Tambourines originated from ancient Mesopotamia, Greece, and Rome and were used for religious contexts, traveling musicians, and military bands. Traditionally, they were a hand held instrument created from a round, wooden frame and stretched rawhide, accompanied by metal disks called zils. By striking the head of the tambourine or shaking it, the zils are set in motion. The tambourine can be found today in several forms of music, including folk, classical, gospel, rock, and pop music.

Materials:

- 2 paper plates
- A handful of dried beans
- Stapler
- Markers, stickers, ribbons, feathers, etc.



Instructions:

1. Set one paper plate on the table and drop a handful of beans on it.
2. Top with the other plate, face side down, and staple the edges of the plates together. Make sure the staples are close enough that no beans can escape!
3. When the tambourine is fully constructed, decorate to your desire with the provided craft materials.

Harmonica

The harmonica has a long history, beginning in China with an instrument called the Sheng made out of bamboo reeds. It then developed in Germany and later moved to America in the 19th century. This instrument creates sound by vibrations from blowing air into its many holes, producing up to 20 musical notes. Harmonica is now found in genres such as blues and folk music.



Materials:

- 2 popsicle sticks
- 2 rubber bands
- 1 toothpick, cut in half
- 1 piece of paper the length of the popsicle sticks

Instructions:

1. Sandwich the paper strip between the 2 popsicle sticks.
2. Wrap a rubber band around one end until it is snug.
3. Slide 1 toothpick to the inside of the rubber band on top of the paper.
4. Sandwich the last toothpick at the other end of the popsicle sticks under the paper and wrap with a rubber band to secure.

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Rainstick

The rainstick originated from tribes of Northern Chile. Traditional rainsticks are made from dried cacti, thorns, and pebbles. When held vertically, the falling pebbles sound similar to trickling rain. It was believed that playing this instrument at desert ceremonies evoked the rain spirits during dry, harsh climates.

Materials:

- 1 paper towel roll
- Washi or decorative tape
- Clear packing tape
- 3 folded cardboard strips
- Popcorn kernels or rice
- Stickers, markers, ribbon, etc.



Instructions:

1. Cover one end of the roll with clear tape.
2. Place 3 strips of cardboard, folded like an accordion, inside the tube.
3. Pour 2 handfuls of kernels or rice into the tube, filling about 1/3 of the tube.
4. Cover the other end of the roll with clear tape.
5. Decorate to your desire with the provided craft materials.

Djembe

The djembe is the drum of the Mandinka people, originating back to the 12th century in West Africa. It is made from a piece of wood carved in the shape of a goblet, hollowed, and covered with animal skin. This drum is played traditionally with song at rituals, baptisms, weddings, and sometimes funerals with the players' hands.

Materials:

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| • 1 hollow can | • colored yarn |
| • 2 circles of felt | • glue stick |
| • construction paper | • beads (optional) |

Instructions:

1. Wrap the pre-cut construction paper around your can and glue the edges together.
2. Place 1 circle of felt under the can and 1 on top, aligning the hole punches between each other.
3. Tie a knot in the yarn and string through your first bottom hole in the felt.
4. Continue stringing the yarn through the punched holes, going from top to bottom in triangular patterns. Add beads along the way if desired.
5. Finish by tying a second knot in the felt atop your first knot.



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Rattle Drum

The rattle drum was created in North America by the indigenous tribes of Native Americans. Traditionally, this hand held instrument was made out of natural ingredients such as rawhide, feathers, fur, seeds, bones, and shells. The tribes used these rattles along with dancing in ceremonies, healing rituals, and spiritual journeys. It is believed that these drums are played to call out to the spirit of the tree and animal that created the rattle to protect and watch over them.

Materials:

- 1 empty ribbon spool
- 1 paper straw
- 2 pre-cut paper circles
- gluestick
- yarn and beads
- Washi tape, markers, stickers, etc.



Instructions:

1. Collect started drum with attached handle and yarn.
2. Glue the pre-cut circles of paper onto each side of the spool and decorate as desired.
3. Add 1 bead to each side the hanging yarn, tying a knot on the end to prevent the bead from falling off.

Didgeridoo

The didgeridoo is a wind instrument that was first created in Australia out of hollow logs and decorated with traditional paints. To play the didgeridoo, the Aborigines continuously vibrated their lips while engaging in a technique called circular breathing. Modern approaches to playing the didgeridoo includes a combination of beatboxing.

Materials:

- 1 empty wrapping paper roll
- Washi tape, markers, stickers, etc.

Instructions:

1. Decorate the wrapping paper roll as desired and enjoy! Most traditional didgeridoos include animals or a series of dots to make it special to the instrument's owner.

