



A World of Sound

In this adventure, you will make musical instruments from around the world! And we're not talking about pianos, trumpets, and guitars!

We're talking about mbiras, sistrums, and rain sticks! Don't know what they are, then look below!



1. Make a Mbira

- what you'll need: glue gun, tape, wire cutters, 4 craft sticks, 4 bobby pins, thumbtacks, a block of wood (6x8in), and safety glasses
- glue 2 craft sticks to the block of wood. Ensure sticks are high enough on wood, so bobby pins do not stick off.
- put on safety glasses, and cut 4 bobby pins in half. Then cut in descending length
- tape bobby pins to craft sticks. Glue 2 more sticks on top of pins.
- push thumbtacks into sticks. Bend pins to 45 degree angle and play!



2. Make a Sistrum

- what you'll need: wire hanger, electrical tape, 2 craft sticks, some fishing line or thin wire, assorted small items with holes (buttons, washers, etc.), wire cutters, safety glasses
- straighten out curved part of hanger (will be handle). Put 2 craft sticks on either side of handle and wrap tightly with electrical tape.
- with help of an adult and wearing safety glasses, cut the long side of the hanger in half with wire cutters. Bend each side down, so it looks like Y.
- wrap the top, middle, and bottom of each side of the Y with tape
- Attach a piece of fishing line to one side of the Y. String some buttons, etc. Then tie the other end to the other side of the Y. Repeat in 1 to 2 other places.



3. **Make a Rain Stick**

- what you'll need: cardboard mailing tube (w plastic end caps if possible), crayons, markers, and other art supplies, paper, packaging tape, thin wire, 4-5 chenille stems, a variety of small objects like uncooked rice, beans, small beads, dry macaroni, etc., wire cutters, & safety glasses
- With the help of an adult and with safety glasses, use wire cutters to cut a piece of wire that is about 2-3 times as long as the tube. Tape over the wire ends to prevent poking. Twist and tangle the wire so it is the same length as the tube and will fit inside.
- cut the chenille stems in half and twist around the wire every 6 inches. If your mailing tube is extra wide, use whole chenille stems so they stretch across the tube.
- Slide wire inside tube. Tape each end of the wire to the inside of the tube, so it won't slip up and down.
- Cap one end of the tube or tape a piece of paper.
- pour a handful of rice, beans, etc. into the tube, Hold hand over the open end and slowly turn the tube upside down. Cap the other end or tape a piece of paper.
- Try different materials inside the tube until you find the sound you like. Does the rain stick sound different when you put rice vs beans?
- Decorate the outside of the mailing tube!



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