



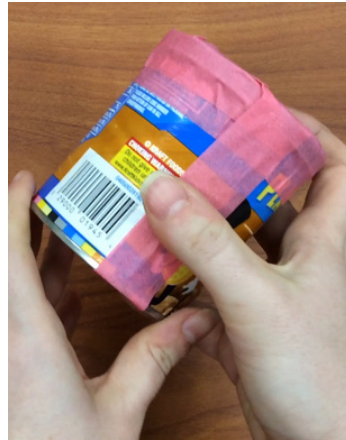
Instruments

Episode 58

Introduction

Music is a fantastic way for children to develop their language skills and have a lot of fun in the process. Singing along with a musical beat helps break down syllables in words and assists with letter and word recognition.

This activity inspires musical creativity and boosts reading readiness with DIY instruments your child will love!



Supplies

- Cardboard
- Bottle caps (2)
- Toilet paper tube or short chip container
- Dry rice or beans
- Scissors
- Glue
- Heavy duty tape

Instructions for Castanets

1. Cut cardboard: For each castanet you want to make, cut a 1.5 inch x 5 inch rectangle, then fold in half.
2. Glue bottle caps: Using hot glue or tacky glue, attach bottle caps with the flat top facing up at each end of the folded cardboard. Decorate if desired!

Instructions for Shakers

1. Fill shaker: If using a toilet paper roll, use cardboard or tape to seal one side of the tube. After one side is sealed, fill with dry rice or beans.
2. Tape shaker: Seal the other end of the tube or container with cardboard or tape. Decorate if desired!

How to Use Your Instruments

Encourage your child to sing while playing the instruments, participating in the fun with them. Sing along with a song you both already know or something made up! Either way, you'll be engaging important early literacy skills.

Additional Resources

Visit Plano Public Library's official [YouTube channel](#) to view this activity and other Library Make videos

Check out our blog post about this activity at [Plano Library Learns](#)

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