

Let's Learn at Home

Fun things to
do this week



Lancashire Early Years Consultants Team

Children under 3 years old



What do we need?

Make a music treasure basket

- Collect recyclable containers with lids
- Cereals, pulses and pasta to put in the containers
- Metal spoons and whisks
- Tin lids
- Ribbons, hair bobbles and jingle bells to attach to their wrists and ankles
- A bag or basket to keep the instruments in
- Familiar songs, rhymes and music for children to use their instruments

What do we do?

- For the very young children make instruments for them to hold, shake, bang and tap to music.
- Allow toddlers to choose their own resources to make an instrument and only help them when necessary
- Provide opportunities throughout the day for child to engage with music of different kinds and try not to have music playing all day when doing other activities, as this can be distracting,
- Have your own set of instruments for you to join in with them
- Role model ways of creating different sounds, for example, loud and soft sounds
- Continue to add different musical objects to the basket for the child to explore.

What are we learning?

- How to play alongside others
- Coordination
- Listening and attention skills
- Using instruments to make sounds to the music
- How to develop interest in sounds, songs and rhymes
- How to build relationships with special people
- How to move in response to hearing rhythms

Children 3 to 5 years old



What do we need?

Provide a variety of the following resources for children to make their own sounds and music.

- Coffee tins with lids, Pringle tubes, small cardboard boxes, and empty plastic bottles of different sizes, with lids
- Sticky tape, collage and paint to decorate their instruments
- Pasta, rice, oats and small stones to put in the containers
- Different kinds of music for children to join in and listen to

What do we do?

- Allow children to choose their own resource's to make their own instrument
- Encourage them to create instruments which make different sound
- Provide songs, rhymes and music with a simple, steady beats and lots of repetition
- Introduce some energetic songs with more varied beats, tones and rhythms
- Join in with your child and have fun

What are we learning?

- How to be creative
- Listening and vocalising
- Physically interpreting the sound of music
- Keeping to a steady beat
- Creating own beats and rhythms
- Showing control in holding and playing instruments to produce musical sounds



What do we need?

Bang that drum

Use household items to create a drum kit outside

- A selection of containers made from wood, plastic, metal or glass
- Sticks, brushes or spoons for beaters

What do we do?

- Allow the child to choose for themselves the containers they would like to use
- Provide a range of beaters as well as using hands
- Play a CD or radio for children to play along to
- Encourage child to pick up one drum to play so that they can move to the music too. Play it up high, low down, side to side
- Child could make other instruments to create a band e.g. shakers and guitars
- Make the music making fun and enjoyable



What are we learning?

- To engage and stimulate the brain, for example boosting language learning ability and improving short-term memory function
- Listening skills and improving concentration
- Physical and mental wellbeing, by encouraging movement and providing a means of expression
- Gross motor skills such as coordination and balance
- Social, cooperative and communication skills
- To foster creativity and an interest in learning (e.g. about different instruments and cultures)

