

MUSICAL SPARKS

AN INSTANT MEETING FOR SPARKS FROM THE BC PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Set up round-robin stations to make all of these musical instruments. Once the girls have completed their instruments, put on a musical show for the parents at the close of the meeting!

**originally published in the "Sparks Instant Meeting Booklet #2" December 2009.*

Meeting Plan

- 10 min: Gathering: Instrument Colouring
- 5 min: Spark Opening
- 30-40 min: Instrument Stations
 - 5-10 min: Rain Sticks
 - 5-10 min: Tambourines
 - 5-10 min: Shakers
 - 5-10 min: Coffee Can Drums
- 5-10 min: Making Music
- 5 min: Spark Closing

60 minute meeting. Approximate activity times shown.

Program Connections

**Exploring and
 Experimenting Keeper**
 (musical instruments)

Meeting Supplies

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> printed colouring sheets | <input type="checkbox"/> coloured electrical tape | <input type="checkbox"/> paint & paintbrushes (optional) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> pencils, crayons, markers | <input type="checkbox"/> stickers | <input type="checkbox"/> tape |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cardboard paper towel tubes | <input type="checkbox"/> paper plates | <input type="checkbox"/> large empty coffee cans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> scraps of cardboard | <input type="checkbox"/> paper hole punch | <input type="checkbox"/> parchment paper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> scraps of fabric | <input type="checkbox"/> jingle bells | <input type="checkbox"/> elastic bands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> aluminum foil | <input type="checkbox"/> yarn or ribbon | <input type="checkbox"/> duct tape |
| <input type="checkbox"/> un-popped popcorn, rice, beans or dried peas | <input type="checkbox"/> toilet paper tubes or empty film canisters | <input type="checkbox"/> chopsticks for beating drum (optional) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> stapler | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> dried beans or rice | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> crepe paper streamers | |

Gathering: Instrument Colouring

Directions

Find colouring sheets online:

<https://www.google.ca/#q=instrument+coloring&tbm=isch>

Supplies

- printed colouring sheets
- pencils, crayons, markers

Rain Sticks

Download some rain stick music from the Internet (<https://www.google.ca/search?q=rainstick+music+mp3>), as well as some pictures of some very fancy rain sticks (<https://www.google.ca/search?q=rain+sticks&tbm=isch>).

Directions

1. Before your meeting, cover one end of each rain stick by cutting a cardboard circle to fit the end of the paper tube. Next, cut out a bigger circle from scrap fabric and attach the cardboard circle to it. Then place the two circles on the end of the tube (cardboard inside for strength) and attach them firmly to the end of the tube using coloured electrical tape. (You may wish to use only the fabric circle, dispensing with the cardboard one).
2. Go to the meeting with a cover attached to one end of each rain stick and the cover for the other end prepared, ready to put in place once the rain sticks have been filled.
3. Take a piece of aluminum foil about one and a half times the length of the paper tube and about four inches wide. Roughly roll the foil lengthwise. Then twist it into a loose spiral approximately the length of the paper towel tube. Push into the tube (the girls can do this).
4. Now add things to the tube that will rattle when the tube is rocked back and forth, such as un-popped popcorn, rice, beans, dried peas or lentils, etc.
5. Once this is done, put the other end of the rain stick on for the girls, and let them decorate with crayons, markers, stickers, etc.

Supplies

- cardboard paper towel tubes
- scraps of cardboard
- scraps of fabric
- aluminum foil
- un-popped popcorn, rice, beans or dried peas
- crayons, markers and stickers
- coloured electrical tape

Tambourines

Directions

1. Using a paper punch, pre-punch holes in the rims of the paper plates so that the holes match up when the girls place two plates together to make a tambourine shape.
2. Have the girls thread the yarn or ribbon through the holes, picking up a jingle bell at each hole.
3. Have them tie off the yarn when they have made it all the way around the tambourine.
4. Let them decorate tambourines with crayons, markers, stickers, etc.

Supplies

- paper plates
- paper hole punch
- jingle bells
- yarn or ribbon
- crayons, markers, stickers, etc.

Shakers

Directions

1. If using toilet paper tubes, squeeze together and staple one end of the tube.
2. Insert $\frac{1}{4}$ cup beans or rice.
3. Staple the other end closed, or snap the lid on the film canister.
4. Colour the tube then attach colourful streamers to the end.

Supplies

- toilet paper tubes or empty film canisters
- stapler
- dried beans or rice
- crepe paper streamers
- paint, markers or crayons
- tape

Coffee Can Drums

Directions

1. Cut the lids off both ends of the coffee can and make sure there are no sharp edges.
2. Cut a cut a circle of parchment paper large enough to give a 2-inch overhang all around the coffee can.
3. Stretch the paper taut over one end of the coffee can and secure temporarily with elastic bands.
4. Secure with tape.
5. Use hands or chopsticks to play the drum.

Supplies

- large empty coffee cans (or other canisters)
- parchment paper
- elastic bands
- duct tape
- chopsticks for beating drum (optional)