

learn by doing from the Westchester Children's Museum

## RECYCLED MUSIC

Everyone by now should know how to sing their praises to Mother Earth with the three "R's" - "Reduce-Reuse-Recycle."

Here is an activity that allows you to "Reuse" many common household items to create your very own rock 'n roll band - or an orchestra if you prefer!

### Materials:

Recycled materials, masking tape, and your imagination!

### Directions:

Please encourage your child to make her own creations - exploration and experimentation are an important part of the learning process. Use several different size contains to make the same instrument and compare the sound quality. You can make shakers with different materials inside, such as - sand, salt, dried beans, pebbles, or rice - and play a game to identify what's inside the shaker.



Here are some suggestions for a few "traditional" instruments:

*Guitar* – a recycled box (cereal, pasta or any snack box works), rubber bands, masking tape, and a paper towel tube. Cut a hole in the middle of one side of the box. Wrap rubber bands around the box for strings, and attach a paper towel tube handle using lots of masking tape

*Drum* – any recycled cylinder or box you can bang on! (oatmeal boxes and a plastic domino sugar container work really well)

*Shakers* – toilet and paper towel tubes, or yogurt containers with a lid, rice, pasta, or sand, and masking tape to seal the ends

*Wind Instruments*- toilet and paper towel tubes, poke holes and cover one end with a paper towel

While you are enjoying making beautiful music together you are exploring...



### *Resonance:*

A pendulum swings back and forth at a natural frequency in the same way a child moves on a swing with a natural frequency. Resonance happens every time an object is allowed to vibrate at its natural frequency.

### *Frequency:*

The rate of vibration of a string or column of air.

### *Pitch:*

Highness or lowness of a tone, depending on the frequency.

### *Tone:*

A sound of definite pitch.