Make a musical instrument

This craft is inspired by the book Animal Music by Julia Donaldson. Make your own musical instrument to shake with the animals playing in a concert in the story.

You will need: cardboard roll, small piece of gift wrap or white paper, pencil, ruler, scissors, small piece of greaseproof paper, round mug or coaster to draw around, glue stick, sticky tape, 2 tbsp of dried pulses or rice.

Instructions:

- 1. Fold a small piece of greaseproof paper in half. Draw around a round mug or coaster. Cut out. You should have two circles. See picture below (left).
- 2. Cover one end of the cardboard roll with one of the circles. Please see the picture below (right). Use sticky tape to secure into position be generous with the tape.





3. Put a maximum of 2 tbsp of dried pulses or rice into the open end of the cardboard roll. We used dried chickpeas. Different pulses/rice will create different sounds, the same with the quantity used.

4. Using sticky tape, seal the open end of the cardboard roll with the second circle of greaseproof paper.

 Cover the tube with either white paper, on which you can draw a design, or gift wrap. Use a glue stick or sticky tape to secure the paper into place. Leave to dry.
Shake your musical instrument to create a sound!

Fun fact: The museum has a set of musical pipes belonging to the Kaw tribe from Burma or the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, which are currently on display in the Cabinets of Curiosity special exhibition.



These activities have been created as part of the Learning & Participation programme at West Berkshire Museum and Shaw House. For more information about our family events please visit http://www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on