

Supporting Music Learning at Home

Hands-On Instrument Making

- **Junk Orchestras:** Turn empty plastic bottles into shakers by filling them with rice or pasta. Stretch elastic bands over sturdy cardboard boxes to make DIY string instruments or use pots and pans for drum practice.
- **Body Percussion:** Encourage clapping, stamping, and clicking. You can explore dynamics (loud/quiet) and tempo (fast/slow) just by altering how your child uses their hands and feet.

Guided Listening and Movement

- **Active Listening:** Play different genres of music and ask your child to draw what they hear, matching colours and movements to the mood.
- **(Super Quiet Uninterrupted Listening Time):** Dedicate short, focused periods for calm listening to build patience and encourage critical thinking about the instruments being played.

Voice and Singing

- **Call and Echo:** Sing simple patterns (e.g., repeating phrases like "fish and chips") and have your child echo them back to you.
- **Familiar Tunes:** Swap lyrics to well-known nursery rhymes or simple songs to create new music together.

Free Educational Resources

- **BBC Bring the Noise:** Features free, interactive tools like 'Play It!' and 'Thunder Jam' that are fantastic for early years and primary students.
- **Sing Up at Home:** Offers song playlists, teaching videos, and lyrics tailored for learning at home.
- **Myleene's Music Klass:** A widely accessible YouTube series introducing rhythm, pitch, and instruments in a fun, home-friendly way
- For tips on how to start making music playfully, even if you do not have a musical background yourself:



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Supporting Children's Music Development in Early Childhood ...



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