

Developing musical awareness

Make a noisy treasure box together!

Activity 1 - Find a box and fill it with lots of things that make different noises. You could use crinkly paper, toys that make noises, pots and pans, plastic bottles, musical instruments and anything else you can find. As you collect the items, explore, listen and talk about them with your child before you put them into the box.

Use the box of noisy items to play listening games together. Such as, making a noise with an object and asking your child to guess what it is. It's good for children to tune into sounds and be able to tell noises apart.

Activity 2 - We can also help developing descriptive language by describing the sounds, for example using words like scratchy sound, smooth, spikey, soft sound, loud, quiet, etc.

Activity 3 - This last term we have been working on rhythms, tapping out simple repeated rhythms and exploring sounds (this links to numeracy,



counting, logical thinking, and expressive arts). You can carry on doing this at home by making up a rhythm with one your treasures (or clapping), your child can copy you by doing the same sound pattern.

Activity 4 - A way of enhancing the activity could be adding counting to it, one number for each sound and keeping with the beat at the same time.

Activity 5 - Invite your child to play rhythm name games, tapping out the syllables of their name and others.

Activity 6 – Explore mark making to different sounds. You can of course do this with instruments or pieces of music, in Kindergarten we have been listening to Jazz music the past two weeks! But you can also do it with your treasures in your noisy treasure box. You can explore tempo, pitch and patterns.

Have fun!