

What will you choose to do?

- Make a tin can telephone with a friend. Investigate which connectors transfer the sound most effectively (maybe wool, string or plastic coated wire). What is the longest connector you can use that still transfers the message? Does the connector need to be taut? Try using yoghurt pots instead of tin cans. Which work best?

A responsible adult should drill or punch a hole into the bottom of each can and check that the cans have no sharp edges.

- Watch online footage of brass bands. Create a musical band at home with family or friends, improvising with instruments to achieve different sounds. Compose some music of your own or play a well-known tune.
- Design a uniform for a marching band. Look at online images for inspiration.
- Listen to another traditional tale featuring a soldier character, perhaps *The Tinder Box* or *Stone Soup*. Practise retelling the story, preparing to tell it to your classmates at school. Perhaps you could make stick puppets to bring the characters to life?
- Record some sounds at home to create a sound quiz. What about the sound of the washing machine, the babbling of your baby brother or sister or the theme tune to your favourite TV programme? Can your classmates identify the sounds?
- Find a poem, nursery rhyme or song about marching. Learn it by heart to perform at school.
- Using the web, find out about interesting drums from other countries. Draw a picture of your favourite, locate its country of origin on a world map and watch an online video of someone playing it.
- Find out if any local bands perform in your area – many parks have a local bandstand with summer performances. Perhaps you could attend a show and pick out your favourite instrument?
- Do some online research to find out about some of the commands used to instruct marching bands, such as ‘left face’, ‘horns up’, ‘parade rest’ – what do they mean?



band

A small group of musicians who play music together.

.....

beat

The steady pulse that you feel in a piece of music.

.....

chant

To say or sing a word or phrase over and over again.

.....

choir

A group of people who sing together.

.....

chorus

A part of a song that is repeated several times, usually after each verse.

.....

conductor

A person who directs the performance of a choir or orchestra.

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dynamics

The loudness or softness of a piece of music.

.....

instrument

An object that is played to make music. A piano, drum, guitar or xylophone is a musical instrument.

.....

lyrics

The words of a song.

.....

marching band

A group of musicians who play instruments and march at the same time.

.....

melody

A tune made up of a series of musical notes that make a memorable sound.

.....

music

Tuneful sounds made by voices, musical instruments or computers.



note

A musical sound or a written symbol that represents this sound.

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orchestra

A large group of people who play different musical instruments together and are led by a conductor.

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percussion

Instruments that make a sound when they are struck, scraped or rattled, such as drums, cymbals and maracas.

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performance

A play, concert or song that is presented to an audience to entertain them.

.....

pitch

The level of a sound.

.....

pulse

The beat in a piece of music.

.....

rhyme

Words that have the same final sound such as sad and mad.

.....

rhythm

The pattern of sounds, words or notes.

.....

sound

Anything that you can hear.

.....

tempo

The speed of a piece of music.

.....

verse

A part of a song that tells a story and comes before and after the chorus.

.....

volume

The loudness of a sound.



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Nursery rhymes

[Nursery songs and rhymes – BBC School Radio](#)

A large bank of nursery rhyme videos with lyrics. You can download and print the lyrics from this web page to share with children.

[Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star – BBC School Radio](#)

Nursery rhyme video with lyrics.

[This Old Man – BBC School Radio](#)

Nursery rhyme video with lyrics.

[The Grand Old Duke of York – BBC School Radio](#)

Nursery rhyme video with lyrics.

[Hot Cross Buns – Songs for Teaching](#)

Song lyrics and a short sound clip.

[Frère Jacques – bussongs.com](#)

Song lyrics and an animated video.

Making musical instruments

[Homemade musical instruments – Pinterest](#)

Inspiring images for making musical instruments.

[How to make musical instruments for kids – Howcast](#)

Video guides for making a range of musical instruments.

[Cardboard guitars – Crafts for Kids](#)

A set of instructions to help you create a cardboard box guitar with rubber bands that stretch from the bottom of the box right to the top of the guitar neck.

Trooping the Colour

[Trooping the Colour \(2011\) – BBC](#)

A one-minute video clip showing a rehearsal for the Trooping of the Colour. This video shows the Scots Guards marching.

[Trooping the Colour \(2011\) – The British Grenadiers – YouTube](#)

This two-minute video shows a section from the famous military parade, Trooping the Colour, to celebrate the Queen's birthday. This video shows the Grenadier Guards marching.

[Guards march along The Mall: Trooping the Colour – YouTube](#)

A variety of short clips from the Trooping the Colour (2016), including clear views of musicians and instruments.

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Using the voice to make music

[Die grössten Schweizer Hits – Oesch’s die Dritten: Ku-Ku Jodel – YouTube](#)

A three-minute video showing a Swiss yodeller performing for a TV studio audience.

[Perpetuum Jazzile – Africa – VideoSift](#)

A six-minute video showing a choir performing the song *Africa* by Toto, preceded by an impressive percussive ‘storm’.

[Inuit throat singing – National Geographic](#)

A short clip showing extraordinary Inuit throat singing. The video explains how this form of singing started as a game.

[Native American chant – Songs of the Spheres](#)

A selection of audio clips providing examples of Native American chanting.

[Ella Fitzgerald: One note samba \(scat singing\) – YouTube](#)

1969 footage of Ella Fitzgerald – singing begins at 40 seconds.

Sound effects and guess the sound

[Stimulus Sounds Library – BBC School Radio](#)

Over 200 audio clips, organised by category, providing a wide variety of sounds such as a ‘dog barking’, ‘heavy rain on a roof’ and ‘car starts up and drives off’.

[Free sound effects – PacDV](#)

A library of audio clips, organised by category.

The Steadfast Tin Soldier

[The Steadfast Tin Soldier – Storynory](#)

Free audio stream and download of *The Steadfast Tin Soldier*. You can also read the text or print out the story.

Body drumming

[Stomp Live – Just clap your hands – YouTube](#)

A twelve-minute video showing the percussion group, Stomp, using a range of physical actions to make interesting sounds.

[Full body percussion performance – BBC Ten Pieces](#)

A four-minute video showing a ‘body orchestra’ using physical actions such as stamping, clapping, jumping and running to make different sounds.

[How body percussion could benefit your school – Beat Goes On](#)

Towards the bottom of this web page, you will find a two-minute video clip of a percussion group called Molodi who use their bodies in interesting ways to create sounds.

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