

Balloon bongo, rice shaker and güiro

Dan the Music Man is performing a special virtual Family Fun Day event in your community. We want you to get involved! Enjoy making this fun and easy musical craft project with your family. When you have made your instrument(s), experiment and practise the sounds. Once you have practised, you will be ready to play your percussion instrument with Dan during the Dan the Music Man show!

Check out the recipe download for homemade bubble mix to make bubbles during the show.

Have fun. See you soon!

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How to make

- You will need:
 - Some empty, clean tin cans
 - Rice/lentils
 - Balloon (substitute 1/4 sheet paper in very young or unsupervised children)
 - Elastic bands
 - small drum sticks / chopsticks / popsicle sticks
1. Begin by putting a small handful of rice or lentils into an empty tin can. Make sure the tin can has smooth edges (most can openers open tins without leaving a sharp edge).
 2. Cut the end off the balloon and simply stretch over the end of the tin. 1/4 sheet of paper works too!
 3. Secure the balloon/paper with an elastic band and make music!



How to play

A couple of chopsticks or similar will allow your child to tap the top like a drum, the bottom like a steel drum and play the edge of the tin can like a güiro by scratching along the ridges and tapping!

Shake the can for a shaker musical instrument!

Tap the top with fingers for a bongo sound! Experiment with sound by touching the balloon top while playing to dampen the reverb. Let go of the top for a sound with echo!

Enjoy your new three-in-one percussion instrument!



Supervise your child as balloons, rubber bands and small toys can be choking hazards in very young children.

Benefits of children learning a musical instrument

Playing music makes children smarter and happier.

Playing a musical instrument helps children benefit at almost every level by enhancing cognitive skills while fostering creative thinking and ability to focus. And how do you start that? By helping them make some music of their own!

Let's colour and name these percussion instruments while imitating their musical sounds!
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