Hello! I'm Liz Harrington, one of the full time Floating Assistant Teachers that you may have seen in your child's classroom! I am an advocate for giving children the ability to explore the Arts, especially music and theater. My goal of The Arts Corner is to provide opportunities for children to explore these subjects at home with you at home.

**Summer is Here!**

Summertime brings us sunshine and warm temperatures- and a great deal of outdoor time! It is the time of year that impromptu "dance parties" spring up when music is brought outside. Usually traditional instruments aren't always seen or played with outdoors; but what if you could offer an instrumental experience without worrying about damaging them? By creating some, of course! Here are some ideas that are a bit different than usual:

- **Washer Wind Chimes:** Create a wind chime! Collect various-sized washers and have your child paint them. When done, grab a dowel and use craft wire (an adult job, of course) to attach the washers to the dowel. For longer-lasting colors that don't chip, use acrylic paints and finish with a waterproofing spray (such as shellac).

- **Creating and Outdoor Sound Wall:** On a board or a fence, attach various objects that may make interesting sounds when struck (such as colanders, gelatin molds, pots/lids, and other objects made of various materials). You can use an object such as a stick or a spoon to strike them. There are many different ways people have created and modified their sound walls- an internet search will
- **Musical Tree**: Instead of attaching above objects to a wall, hang them from a tree at a low enough level for your child to strike them!

- **Drums, Drums, Drums**: There are MANY materials that can be used like a drum! Metal or plastic trash cans, five-gallon buckets, empty margarine containers, coffee containers, and more. Each will make a unique sound. What will be louder? Softer? Higher pitched? Experiment away!

![Image of drums](image)

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**Song of the Season**

"Let's Go Fishing"

[Actions for each line are in italics below the lyrics. You can ask your child what color fish they think they will catch- be prepared for some silly-colored fish!]

**Let's go fishing on a bright and sunny day,**

*Pretend to reel in a fishing pole.*

**And catch all the [color] fish swimming in the bay.**

*Place hands together pointing forwards (your fish) and "swim" your fish back and forth.*

**With our hands in our pockets,**

*Clap hands together on the word "hands" and place hands on side pants pockets on the word "pockets."*

**And our pockets in our pants,**

*Tap side pants pockets again on "pockets" and hand touch pockets on back of pants on word "pants."

**See all the [color] fish do the wiggly-jiggly dance!**

*Do a silly wiggly dance!**