

Let's Make a Drum



Last week, we saw some percussion instruments called **drums**! There are many drums that are made of a large variety of different materials, such as wood, metal or plastic. Some even have a “head” (the membrane that you hit which wiggles/vibrates to make sound) that is made from an animal hide.

How To



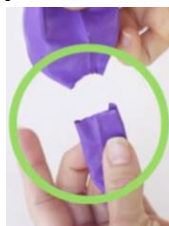
Step One: Find a Container

Find a container that you'd like to use to make a drum. This could be something like a yogurt container, oats container, or coffee/formula can. *[You could also use an empty soup can, but you would want to make sure that it has no sharp edges left.]* Decorate your drum using tape, construction paper, or other materials first before adding your drum head.

Step Two: Choose a Drum Head

The head of the drum is the part that you hit- it vibrates/wiggles when struck to create sound. Real drum heads are primarily made of plastics or animal skins.

Type 1: Balloon



{Adult Job} Grab a balloon and cut it in the area between the mouthpiece and the body of the balloon (see picture above). Discard the mouthpiece and stretch the remaining part of the balloon over the opening of your container. Larger openings will do better with a bigger balloon- if the balloon is too small it will tear when played. Use a rubber band or packing/masking tape to hold the balloon.

Type 2: Plastic Lid

This version works if you are using a container which already has a plastic lid. You will not need to make any additional changes, unless your child would like to decorate it.

Step Three: Play!

Enjoy your new drum! Use your hands to play or create mallets using pencils. *Remember to talk with your child about safe playing (i.e.: not stabbing) if you choose to use a balloon head- they can be fragile if misused.*

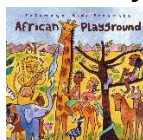


If You Don't Have These Supplies... Don't Fret!

The easiest drums that can be made at home can be found right inside your cabinets! Your child can experiment with drums using pots, pans, and bowls in your home. Your kitchen jam session can become a science experiment! Try different sized pots and pans- ask your child if think that different "mallets" (plastic/metal/silicone utensils) will make different sounds or their hands.

Music to Enjoy

Putumayo Kids Present: African Playground



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bluehC5Vga4>