I Can Hear - Make a Tambourine

Make some musical instruments at home to investigate sound!

Topic: *I Can Hear –Sound*
Time: *20 min*
Age group: *3 - 5*

What you need

- Paper plates
- Dry seeds (for example: lentils, black beans)
- Stapler
- Optional: paint, markers, ribbons, rattles for decoration
- Hole punch
- Tape
- Colour string/wool

What to do

Set up

- Have all your materials at hand

Activity

- Place the face of the plates together and staple them leaving an opening wide enough for the kids to put the dry seeds in the space between the plates
- Finish stapling the plates together
- Place a piece of tape over the staples
- Decorate you tambourine. You can use the hole punch around the borders of the paper plates and use small string/ribbons with rattles for special effects
- Kids can use their creativity to decorate their tambourine
- If you make more than one tambourine is a good exercise to compare the sounds they make, by having one that has more or less seeds than the other

The Science

- Different objects make different sounds.
- Sounds vary in volume (loud or soft), pitch (high or low), and rhythm (fast or slow).
- Things that **vibrate** send out sound**waves**.

Frequency is determined by how fast the sound producing objects vibrates.
Pitch is how high or low a sound is. Pitch depends on the frequency of a sound.
Loudness. The loudness of a wave depends on its energy. The greater the energy the louder the sound. The greater the energy the greater the amplitude (height) of the sound wave.

Science talk

Science talk is a way of giving children the language they need to investigate and explore concepts. It doesn't need to sound scientific! The scientific method is about asking questions, making comparisons and predications and discussing results. Science talk is just a way to give children the simple vocabulary they need to develop their own understanding.

Description words

Use and repeat descriptive words such as fast, slow, loud, soft, quiet, rattle.

Science process words

Observe, notice, compare, same, different, change, test, and predict.

Open ended questions

- Why do you think some surfaces absorb the drops and others don't?
- What do you think is similar about the surfaces that absorb the water?

Skills

Observing, predicting, recording, learning about the concepts of sound

Stay Safe

- Staples should be use under adult supervision