

Sensory Junk Percussion 1

A music activity by
Gary Hammond

Hello Everyone, how are you all? It's Gary here and I'm going to be working with you all on the Sensory Junk Percussion project.

What is Junk Percussion?

It doesn't mean stuff that you throw away! It's about finding day to day things/objects in your home or school that you can make a sound or a rhythm from. Anything goes, as long as you don't break it! The classic example is the saucepan: if you turn it upside down and tap it with a wooden spoon, it turns into a drum. What would it be like if you had 3 different sizes of pans and 2 wooden spoons? Try it at home!

I have been around my house, looking for things to play or things to make a sound with, to give you some ideas. I would love to find out what you found in your own homes or at school. For those of you who are online, I am making a video to show you some of the sounds I have discovered, and we can begin to work together to create a sensory junk percussion soundscape. To find out more, check out www.wearedarts.org.uk/children-young-people-with-disabilities

But first, let's get on with some sound searching! On the next page, I have included some ideas for objects that work well, to get you started - I hope you enjoy your junk hunt as much as I did!

Whatever you find make sure you have a teacher, adult or older sibling with you to make sure nothing harmful is used. Once you have gathered some objects, start playing around with some ideas and ways of playing your instruments - there is always more than one way to make a sound -

Most importantly, EXPLORE and HAVE FUN!

Gary

Items to look out for:

Saucepans

Pasta or rice in jars or tins for shakers

Straws to blow water in cups, bowls or buckets for gurgling waterfalls

Whistling or blowing for the wind

Sandpaper/glasspaper rubbed together

Tapping metal spoons together

Small metal waste paper bins

Frying pans

Oven trays

Metal grills

Cheese graters

Rustling paper

Table tops for drumming on

Chopsticks on bottles

Opening and shutting doors

Sweeping with brooms

Scraping radiators with soft sticks

Opening and closing zips

Door knockers

Bicycle bells

Rattling money boxes

Closing/opening curtains

Stamping

Clapping

Metal or hard plastic trays

Metal or plastic cups

Children's toys