BUILD AN INSTRUMENT

Now’s your chance to build your own instrument using everyday objects!

Choose whether you want to make:

A STRING INSTRUMENT
YOU CAN STRUM

A WIND INSTRUMENT
YOU CAN BLOW

A PERCUSSION INSTRUMENT
YOU CAN STRIKE

MAKE ONE OR TWO, OR
MAKE ALL THREE! THE
NEXT PAGES SHOW YOU
HOW TO BUILD THEM.
A STRING INSTRUMENT YOU CAN STRUM

THIS IS WHAT YOU’LL NEED!

• A cardboard cereal or cracker box
• A cardboard tube from a paper towel roll or bathroom roll
• Scissors and tape
• Rubber bands
• A pencil

1. Cut out a circle or oval on the front surface of the box. Before cutting, feel free to decorate your box with wrapping paper, pictures, or stickers.

2. Stretch rubber bands around the box, as in the diagram.

3. Tape the cardboard tube to the top of box.

4. Place a pencil underneath the rubber band below the circle/oval hole.

Pull on the strings gently or strum them lightly with a finger to make sounds!
A WIND INSTRUMENT YOU CAN BLOW

THIS IS WHAT YOU’LL NEED!

- Plastic straws
- Scissors and tape

1. Cut straws to different lengths. You may wish to cut the straws in pairs, as in the diagram.

2. Line up the straws by length, from tallest to shortest.

3. Place a piece of tape across the straws.

4. When the straws are securely fastened, add a piece of tape to the other side. Add enough tape to keep the straws stable.

Blow across the straw holes on the straight end of your new instrument. Move it across your lips while blowing and hear different sounds!
A PERCUSSION INSTRUMENT YOU CAN STRIKE

THIS IS WHAT YOU’LL NEED!

• An empty egg carton (Use a carton that holds a dozen eggs)
• A set of 5 wrenches in sizes from large to small (Ask nicely if you can borrow them from the family toolbox!)

1. Remove the eggs. Turn the egg carton upside down. The egg-holder protrusions on the underside of the carton should be on top.

2. Take the largest wrench and wedge it in the gap next to first set of egg-holder protrusions.

3. Wedge the next largest wrench into the second gap. Continue with the rest of the wrenches, so that the smallest wrench is placed in the last gap.

4. Decorate your instrument with cutouts, stickers, ribbons—you name it!

Tap the wrenches in the middle part with a small metal object, such as a spoon handle, to make sounds. Also try tapping the ends of the wrenches to make different sounds!