

Oatmeal Tub Drums

Easy to make instruments! Great for Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and kids craft and music projects.

To make drums:

You need:

- Oatmeal, Hot Cocoa, Potato chip tubs and cans
- Acrylic paint and paint brushes-
- water to clean brushes
- Decorative tape or ribbon and rick rack

Cover work surface with newspaper or a plastic table cloth. Have children wear paint shirts to prevent stains. Paint with acrylic paint to cover the labels. You May need two coats. Decorate with ribbons, rick rack or decorative tape. (For ribbon use a hot glue gun – adults only for this part for safety-and glue short sections at a time, or use school or craft glue if you have more time for it to dry.) Replace lid to make the drum head.



To make drum sticks

You need:

- Wooden chop sticks (look in the cooking utensil area of your store), medium sized balloons (water bombs are too small) and cotton balls decorative tape or narrow ribbon.

Stretch balloon mouth open with fingers and push in 6 or more cotton balls to make a firm mallet head. Insert the smaller end of the chop stick into the center of the cotton and tightly wrap ribbon or tape around the balloon mouth to secure the stick into the mallet head.



For more Teaching Tips and Primary Music aids go to: www.soundsofsortomme.com

Oatmeal Tub Drum Activities

These drums are not loud so they are great for young as well as older children.

Before you start instruct child or children to handle the drum carefully. A gentle tap is all that is needed. Though homemade, this drum is an actual instrument and will last a long time if treated with respect. (This also teaches children to respect and treat instruments with care.)

Play by striking the mallet on the lid which is the drum head. This drum is easy to hold under one arm and play using one drum stick or mallet. To use two drum sticks have children sit and hold the drum in position between their knees. Remind the children that gentle playing is all that is needed to make a great sound.

Rhythm Band:

For a single child, play a fun song and have the child beat to the pulse of the music. Find that steady Beat 1-2-3-4 or 1-2-3 or even 1-2. Master the skill of playing to the beat of the song. If you have a group of children, have half play to the beat (pulse) and the other half play a simple rhythm. Then have them switch parts.

For example: Group 1: 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

Group 2: 1 & 2 3 & 4 1 & 2 3 & 4

Sing and Play:

Use the drum (drums) for a song that is learned or being taught. Have several drums and pick several children to play the beat as everyone sings. Switch children each time you sing though the song if the group is large.

Next have children tap out the rhythm of the song being sung, for example tap out each word you sing.

Parade:

Have children hold the drum under one arm and tap with the other hand as they march along to the music being played or sung:

Come Along It's Parade Time MP3: Is found on our web site under children's MP3s.

This is a perfect a song for this activity.