

Dedicate some time to create your own Little Creatives immersive and sensory experience at home: be curious, imaginative, explorative and play like an artist.



Edwina

Welcome to Little Creatives!

We hope you have fun with your set of activity cards.

The cards provide a taster of the workshops delivered by the Little Creatives artist team; Edwina Kung, Roma Patel, Clare Taylor and Sian Watson.

They are designed for fun at home with everyday materials, playful objects and lots of bits and bobs you already have!

About the materials listed

The experimental approach of the Little Creatives workshops allowed artists to discover simple everyday materials that were fascinating for little ones. You don't need all the materials from their list to have fun! You can find lots of alternatives to use instead. Why not adapt their ideas to suit you and your child? There are no rules and there isn't a 'right way' to play - you have the freedom to do it your way!



Roma



Clare



Sian



For more information,
scan the QR code or visit
inspireculture.org.uk/LittleCreatives

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Cosy Nest Hideaway

by Clare Taylor

Build a birdy hideaway!

Birds build nests to keep their chicks warm and safe. Can you build a cosy nest to sit in?

How about a cover over the top to keep you snug?

When your hideaway is ready, can you invite some soft toys to join you?

You can use...

For the nest:

- Scrap paper (old magazines or newspapers)
- Old packaging (bubble wrap, envelopes, or boxes)
- Cardboard tubes

For the covering:

- Blankets, throws or bed sheets
- A few chairs

What to do...

1. Collect materials for your nest

Look for paper, cardboard, and other bits and pieces, like a bird collecting sticks and leaves for its nest. What can you find?

2. Make your nest pieces

What materials do you have that look like sticks? Can you make leaf shapes from anything you have found? Would you like to tear or scrunch your materials?

3. Plan your nest

What will your nest look like? Will it be big or small, round or square, tidy or messy?



4. Build your nest!

Place and pile your materials to make a cosy space to sit in.

5. Add a roof

Can you use a chair or two around your nest to support the blankets like a tent?

6. Invite some friends

Would you like to invite any teddies or soft toys into your nest to snuggle up with?



Flappy Wings Flight

by Clare Taylor

Craft your wings and become a flying bird!

Birds have wings so they can fly up high in the sky. They use their wings to travel from place to place and find food.

Can you make some wings of your very own so you can flap and fly like a bird?

You can use...

- Sheets of paper, leaflets, envelopes or magazines
- Sticky tape
- Stickers (optional)



What to do...

1. Find your paper

Look for some paper to use for your wings. You could use plain paper, old envelopes, leaflets, or pages from magazines. What colours and patterns can you find?

2. Roll your wing shape

Roll your paper into a tube shape to make the base of your wing. Ask a grown-up to help you stick it together.

3. Make your feathers

Tear or cut long strips of paper. These will become your feathers.

Will your feathers be long, short, straight or wiggly?

4. Attach your feathers

Stick your paper strips onto your rolled-up wing. Where will you place your feathers?

Do they look fluffy or neat?

5. Make your second wing

Repeat the same steps to make another wing. Now you have two wings! Are they the same or different?

6. Decorate your wings (optional)

If you would like to, you can add stickers, drawings or extra paper shapes to your wings. What colours will you choose? What patterns will you make?

7. Put on your wings and fly!

Wear your wings to move, dance and fly around the room.

Glide like an eagle



Flap like a chicken

Waddle like a penguin

Stand on one leg like a flamingo

Leaf Shower shimmy

by Clare Taylor

Twirl and dance in your own leaf storm!

In autumn, some trees let their leaves fall to the ground to get ready for colder weather. Have you ever wondered what it feels like to be caught in a flurry of leaves?

Can you make your own leaves fall at home or in the garden?

How will you move when the leaves swirl around you?

You can use...

- A scarf, small throw, pillowcase or muslin
- Leaves
- Sheets of paper, leaflets, envelopes or magazines



What to do...

1. Collect your leaves

Go on a leaf hunt and collect some leaves. If it is autumn, look on the ground under trees for fallen leaves. What colours, shapes and sizes can you find?

2. Make your own leaves

If you can't find leaves outside, you can make your own! Rip, tear and scrunch old envelopes, magazines or leaflets into paper leaves. Will your leaves be big or small? Smooth or crinkly?

3. Make your leaf pile

Spread your scarf, throw, pillowcase or muslin out on the floor and heap all your leaves on top. How big is your leaf mountain?

4. Get ready to lift

Together with a grown-up or friend for help, each hold one end of the fabric. Can you lift the corners carefully together?

5. Make a leaf shower!

Count to three and fling your leaves into the air. Dance underneath your swirling leaf shower! Can you twirl? Can you jump? Can you move like a leaf blowing in the wind?

6. Try a snowy storm

Would you like to try making winter weather? Instead of leaves, use white paper or cotton balls to make your own snowstorm! Will your snow whirl around quickly or drift down slowly? How will you move in the snow?



Threading Treasure

by Clare Taylor

Turn bits and pieces into threaded treasures!

Sewing helps us join things together.
One way to start sewing is by threading.

Can you create something fabulous using
tubes, paper and pipe cleaners?

Will it be a gorgeous necklace to wear, a
beautiful sculpture to display, or something
completely new?

You can use...

- Pipe cleaners
- Cardboard tubes
- Plastic bottle tops
- Felt tip pen barrels
- Straws
- Buttons and beads
- Pens or crayons
- Stickers
- Paper muffin cases (with holes)
- Egg carton pieces (with holes)
- Anything else you can find!

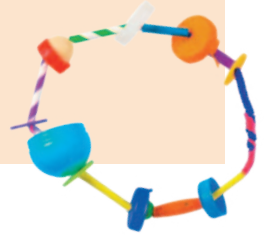
Grown-ups will need...

- Scissors
- A small sharp knife
- Tape, tack or modelling clay
- A chopping board to protect surfaces



Grown-ups: help get everything ready for your making...

- Carefully poke holes in bottle tops or pieces of egg carton using a small, sharp knife. Put tape, tack or modelling clay underneath first to stop things slipping.
- Cut straws into different lengths.
- Wash and clean any recycled plastic packaging.
- Make sure items for threading have holes.



What to do...

1. Thread your pipe cleaners

Choose one or two pipe cleaners and start adding your decorations. Slide them on one at a time. Will you plan a pattern or choose a surprise order?

2. Attach, twist and curl your creations

Twist pipe cleaners together to make bigger shapes. You could also wrap your pipe cleaners around a pen or pencil to make a curly shape. What other shapes can you make?

3. Make and decorate your tubes

Use cardboard tubes, or make your own by rolling up paper and sticking it together. Would you like to add colours, drawings or stickers to your tubes?

4. Add holes and weave

Ask a grown up to help make holes in your tubes using scissors or a hole punch. Push pipe cleaners or straws through the holes and weave them in and out. What happens when you pull them through?

5. Build your sculpture

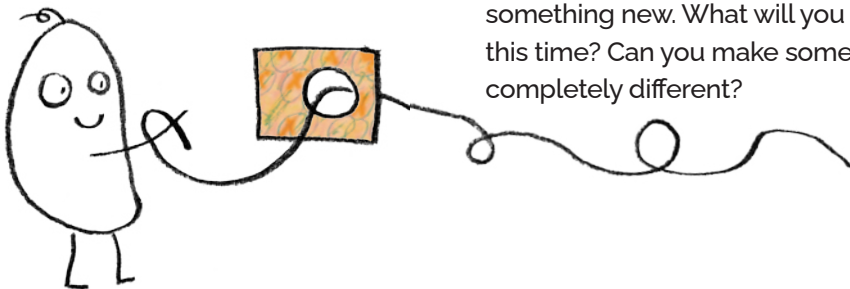
Connect your tubes to make one big creation. Will your sculpture grow upwards, outwards, or both?

6. Step back and admire!

Look at your creation together. What does it remind you of? What is your favourite part?

7. Change and create again

Take your sculpture apart and build something new. What will you change this time? Can you make something completely different?





Tip-Toe Paper Paths

by Edwina Kung

Turn your floor into a magical paper trail!

Imagine making a magical paper path for your toes to follow. Where will it lead? Can you add scrunchy rocks and soft grass?

When your path is ready, can you take your shoes off and explore it with your toes?

You can use...

- Paper in different sizes and colours (any old scrap paper will do - old magazines or newspapers)
- Felt-tips, coloured pencils, or crayons
- Sticky tape

Grown-ups: Paper is easy to tear into shapes, scissors are optional

What to do...

1. Make space

Clear a big space on the floor. This is your special place to build your magic paper path!

2. Plan your trail

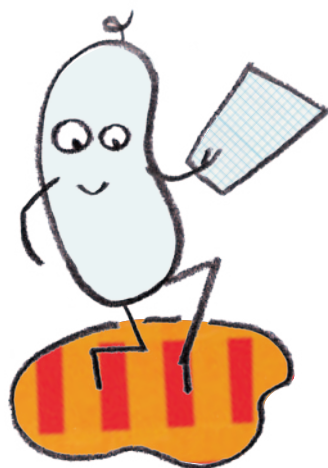
Arrange some paper into a path. Will it be a long straight road, a giant circle, or a squiggly line?

3. Rip and stick!

Tear some paper into long strips and small pieces. Stick them onto your path. Where should each piece go?

4. Add crunchy rocks

Scrunch some paper up into balls and stick them to your path to make rocks. Will you make big boulders, or small stones?



5. Grow grass and flowers

Add colours to the paper path with pens, pencils, and crayons. Will you draw grass, forests, flowers or animals? Who else might use your path?

6. Try the shoes off test

Take off your shoes and walk along your path. Does it feel smooth? Do the rocks feel crunchy? Which part feels best on your toes?

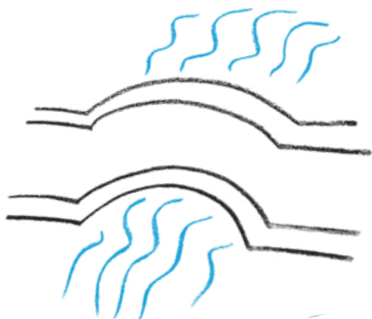
7. Change your path

Try moving your paper around to make new adventures.

Can you turn a straight road into a zig-zag?

Can you add more bumpy or smooth bits for your toes?

Can you add a bridge or a crossroad?



Slot and Stack Sculptures

by Edwina Kung

Transform flat cardboard into a 3D creation!

Let's turn old cardboard into something amazing!

You can build towers, animals, or your very own shapes.

How do the pieces fit together?

What will you create with your cardboard?

You can use ...

- Cardboard
- Paper
- Pens, crayons, or paint
- Masking tape

Grown-ups will need...

- Scissors



What to do...

Grown-ups:

Before the building begins, a grown-up can help get everything ready!

- Cut out cardboard into circles, triangles, and squares.
- Cut 2–3 small slits, about 2–3cm deep, into the edges of each shape. Make sure the slits are big enough for another piece to slide into.



1. Add hidden tape patterns

Lay out the cardboard shapes. Stick pieces of masking tape onto the cardboard shapes. Press the tape down firmly. These will reveal a surprise later on...

2. Scribble and draw

Give each shape its own design. You could paint, colour, and draw on the cardboard. How can you make the shapes look different? Is one shape stripy? Is another shape dotted? Is there a shape that is just one colour?

3. Peel and reveal

Carefully peel the tape off your shapes. What do you notice? Can you see the cardboard appearing through your colourful patterns?

4. Slot and Slide

Now begin building! Slot the cardboard shapes into each other using the slits. What happens when the pieces connect?

Grown-ups: Show your child how to slot and slide the shapes together. Then hold one shape and ask the child to slot in the other shape.

5. Add more shapes

Keep adding more shapes to your sculpture. How do the shapes fit together?

Grown-ups:

As you are fitting the shapes together, encourage the child to try different things. You could ask them questions like, "Should we make the next one go sideways?" or "Can you find a circle to put on next?"

Paper Tunnel Challenge

by Edwina Kung

Let's make a paper tunnel adventure and see what fits through!

Tunnels are long tubes that let things travel from one side to the other. Can you turn your wall into a playground using paper tubes and sticky tape to build your own tunnels?

- Can you find different items to drop into your tunnels?
- What will fit inside?
- What will slide through quickly?
- What will get stuck?
- What will you try next?

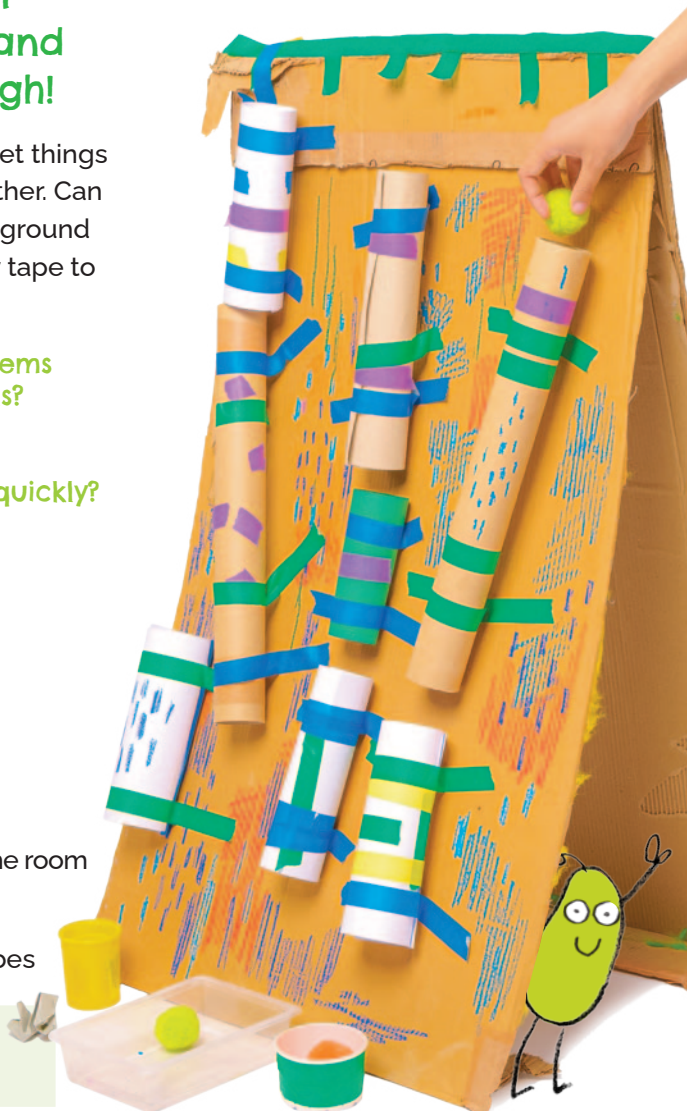
You can use...

- A4 and A3 paper
- Masking tape
- A spoon
- A plastic or paper cup
- Small objects from around the room

Optional...

- Any recycled cardboard tubes

Grown-ups: Be mindful of hazards with small objects!



What to do...

1. Build your tunnels

Take your paper and roll it into tubes. Use tape to hold them together. To make tunnels that are long and narrow, roll from the long side of the paper. To make tunnels that are short and wide, roll from the short side of the paper.

Grown-ups: Aim for different sizes of openings, between 5–8cm wide. Encourage your child to roll some loosely and some tightly, so that different items can fit through different tunnels. Make 4–6 tunnels to start.

2. Add more secret tunnels

If you have cardboard tubes too, add them to your collection of tunnels! What different tunnels do you have?

Grown-ups: Use scissors to cut the bottom out of any closed containers so that they become open-ended tunnels.



3. Map your wall

Use masking tape to stick your tunnels onto your wall. Put them at different heights and angles.

Can you put some high up?

Can you put some low down?

Can you put some straight and some sloping steeply?

Can you connect tunnels together to make them extra-long?

Grown-ups: Remember to be gentle with masking tape on painted walls.

4. Try the crunch test

Scrunch up a piece of paper into a round ball. Try dropping it into a tunnel and watch it pop out of the other end! Where does it come out? Does it move fast or slow?

5. Scoop and drop

Try using a spoon to pick up small objects. Drop them into your tunnels. Do they come out the bottom?

Can you use something else for scooping? How about a cup?

6. The tunnel challenge

Let's try with different toys and objects. Drop them into your tunnels. Which toys do you think will fit through the tunnels? Which ones will get stuck? Can you catch the object with a cup when it pops out the other side?

Sticky Shape Collage

by Edwina Kung

Trace, colour and stick
your own masterpiece!



A collage is a picture made by arranging and sticking different things together.

Can you trace, cut, scribble, and tape your own colourful collage?

What will your picture become?

You can use...

- Sticky tape
- Cardboard
- Paper
- Light objects (rulers, jar lids, sponges)
- Stickers
- Felt tips, coloured pencils, crayons
- Velcro strips (optional)
- Scissors (for grown-ups)

What to do...

1. Trace your objects

Put an object on your paper and carefully draw around it. What shape can a ruler or a jar lid make?

Grown-ups: Cut out the shapes
Ask 'How do they feel now they are cut out?'

2. Decorate your shapes

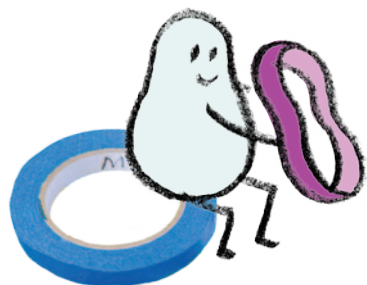
Use felt tips, crayons or stickers to decorate your shapes. What colours will you choose? Will your shapes have patterns or pictures?

3. Make sticky loops

Cut strips of sticky tape (4–5cm in length), and roll them into little loops with the sticky side facing outwards.

4. Attach your sticky loops

Stick one or two loops onto the back of your paper shapes, or even the objects themselves. Now they are ready to stick to your collage!



5. Build your collage

Use a big piece of cardboard as your canvas. Start sticking your shapes and objects onto it.

You can put them anywhere you like!
Where would you like them to go?

Grown-ups: During sticking, encourage your child to try different things by asking them questions like, "Should we layer them on top of each other?" and "Should we spread the shapes out?"

6. Move shapes and change your design

Try taking your shapes and objects off and moving them around. How many objects can fit on your canvas?





Amazing Sculpture Studio

by Roma Patel

Turn everyday
objects into
something amazing!

Even everyday objects can become something amazing when you use your imagination.

What wonderful creation will you make - will it be a tall tower, a funny creature, or something new?

You can use...

- Cardboard shapes (tubes, cartons, small boxes)
- Books and things that stack (wooden blocks, paper cups, plant pots)
- Kitchen things (wooden spoons, containers, a colander)
- Bits and bobs (bottle lids, sticks, straws, pinecones, leaves, scraps of paper or fabric)
- Sticky stuff for attaching (pegs, sticky tape)
- A box or tray to collect the objects



What to do...

1. Collect your materials

Go on a hunt to find different everyday items from inside and outside. What different shapes, sizes and textures can you find?

2. Make your building space

Find a safe space to build. Put all your objects where you can see or reach them easily. Where will you put them?

3. Explore your objects

What objects have you chosen?
Can you move them around?
Can you stack them, or line them up?

4. Start building!

Can you build your objects upwards?
How about outwards or across?
Can you balance, line up, pile, or
group objects together? What other
ways can you arrange your materials?

5. Knock down and build again

Can you knock your sculpture down and start again? What will you change this time? What new thing will you make?

Grown-ups: As your child is building, talk with them about what they are making. You could ask questions like:

What could go on top?

Can you make it shorter or taller?

What happens if you move a piece?

Tell me about your sculpture.



Stories with Shadows

by Roma Patel



Practise making shadows - then watch them come alive!

Shadows appear when something blocks the light. Can you make shadows with your hands and body?

When you have discovered lots of shapes, can you make shadow puppets and create your own story? What adventures will your shadows go on?

You can use...

- A drawing or image of an animal or character
- A lamp, torch, or phone light
- A blank wall or white sheet
- Coloured lights or fairy lights (optional)

Grown-ups will need...

- Scissors
- Glue
- Cardboard
- Sticky tape
- A stick or straw

What to do...

1. Shine your light

Ask a grown-up to help set up a lamp, torch or phone light facing a blank wall or sheet. This is where your shadows will appear!

Grown-ups: Make sure your child doesn't shine a bright light into their eyes.

2. Explore body shadows

Stand in front of the light and make shadows with your body. Stretch up tall, curl up small, jump, and wave. What happens to your shadow when you move around? Can you make it tall or tiny?

3. Try hand shadows

Now use your hands to make shapes. Can you make an animal, a bird, or a silly monster? Move your hands closer to the wall and then further away. What happens to your shadow?

4. Choose your puppet shape

Now let's try with puppets! Can you choose a drawing to turn into a puppet? Will it be a character or an animal? What shape do you think will make the best shadow?

Grown-ups: Simple shapes with fewer delicate parts work best here.

5. Make your puppet

Glue your picture onto cardboard to make it strong. Cut around the shape and tape a stick to the back.

6. Put on your shadow show!

Turn off the light and shine your torch. Hold your puppet in front of the light and watch its shadow appear!

Grown-ups: Encourage the child to hold the puppet about 10–30cm away from the wall.

7. Tell a shadow story

Bring your puppet to life! Can it dance, fly, hide or talk? What story will your puppet tell? Who else will be in your story?

8. Try colourful shadows (optional)

If you have coloured or fairy lights, try shining them from different places and see what changes. What happens when the colours mix? Do the shadows change? Can you make two shadows at once?



Ball Run Builders

by Roma Patel

Build your own pathways where balls can travel, roll and race!

Use cardboard boxes, tubes, and everyday materials to build your own ball run. Watch how balls travel, change direction, and move at different speeds. Can you make your ball go faster, slower, or take a new path?

You can use...

- Cardboard boxes (with holes)
- Cardboard tubes
- Balls (different sizes, colours, textures)
- Cardboard to make your own tubes or ramps
- Sticky tape
- Scissors (for grown-ups)



Grown-ups: Safety tips

- Always supervise play
- Do all the cutting and hole-making
- Use large lightweight balls for younger children
- Make sure stacked boxes are stable and won't tip

What to do...

Grown-ups: Before you begin, help get things ready:

- Cut cardboard and make holes in boxes.
- Check boxes are strong enough to stack safely.
- Smooth any edges of cut cardboard.

1. Test your balls

Feel, roll, hold, and drop your balls. Which balls roll quickly? Are any of your balls bouncy?

2. Get your boxes ready

Put your boxes on the floor or stack them up carefully. How tall will your ball run be?

3. Make your tubes and ramps

There are lots of ways to make tubes of all shapes and sizes! You could...

Roll cardboard into round tubes and secure them with tape.

Fold long strips of cardboard to make triangle or square-shaped tubes.

Cut tubes in half lengthways to make ramps.

Test your balls to see if they fit. Which tubes work best?

4. Build your ball pathway

Add your tubes to the boxes or tape them in place to make a route for your balls. Will your pathway go straight down, or will it twist and turn?

5. Test your ball run

Drop a ball into the top and watch what happens. Does it roll quickly? Does it stop anywhere? Where does it come out?

6. Change and improve

Move your tubes around and try different angles. Use different balls or add a container to catch them at the end. Can you add something noisy so the balls make a sound when they roll?

7. Keep experimenting!

Try changing one thing at a time and see what happens. There is no wrong way to build! What new ideas can you test?



Glowing Light Box

by Roma Patel

Turn a cardboard box into a glowing play space!

With just a cardboard box and some lights, you can create a soft glowing space to play and experiment with light and colour.

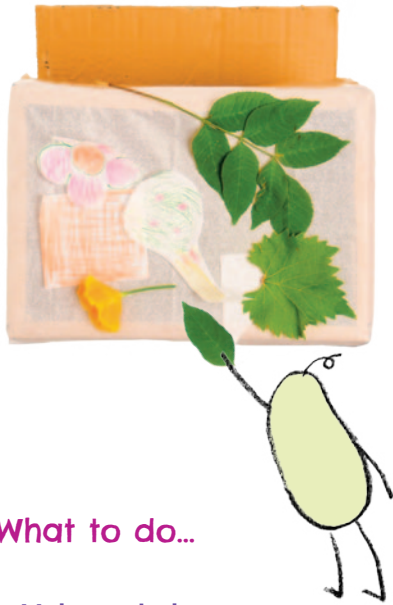
Place objects, drawings, and colours on top and watch closely how the light changes and moves.

What will you discover when your world lights up?

You can use...

- A shoe box (or other cardboard box)
- Baking or tracing paper
- Sticky tape
- Battery-powered white fairy lights or LED lights
- Small objects (leaves, fabric, drawings, small toys)
- Battery-powered coloured fairy lights (optional)
- Scissors (for grown-ups)





What to do...

1. Make a window

Ask a grown-up to cut a big window into the lid or side of your box, leaving a border around the edge. This is where your screen will be. What shape will your window be?

2. Add your screen

Tape baking or tracing paper across the inside of the window. Press the edges down so the paper is smooth and tight like a drum. This will make a soft screen. You can use just one piece of paper, or try two layers for a dimmer glow.

3. Put your lights inside

Place fairy lights inside the box and spread them out evenly. This helps the whole box glow!

4. Turn the lights on!

Turn the lights on and close the box. Watch your glowing screen appear! How does it look? Adding more lights will make it even brighter! Can you make it brighter or dimmer?

5. Start exploring!

Place different things on top of the glowing screen. You could use small toys, drawings, fabric, leaves, or even your hands. Watch how the light changes. What do you see?

6. Play and experiment

Try moving things around and layering them to make new patterns. Try objects with different colours or textures. Add see-through materials like tissue paper or cellophane and see what happens. You could try putting different coloured lights inside the box. What changes? What do you notice?



The Dancing Orchestra

by Sian Watson



Turn yourself into a moving orchestra!

Movements and sounds can be turned into a song and dance using shapes.

Can you choose a shape and give it a movement? What sound could match it?

Using your shapes, can you make a moving show orchestra full of sounds?

You can use...

- Card or paper
- Coloured pens, pencils, or crayons

What to do...

1. Make your shape cards.

Think of lots of shapes you know.
How many can you think of? Draw one shape on each piece of paper.
These are your shape cards!

You could try: a circle, star, moon, or dotted line. Can you think of more?

2. Explore movements and sounds.

Think about different ways your body can move and different sounds you can make. How many can you think of? Which movements go with which shapes? Which sounds?

Here are some ideas...

Circles and spirals are smooth and glide round and round. Can you spin in circles, twirl your arms, or walk slowly in a round shape? Can you make a long humming sound or a soft, smooth "oooooooo"?

Triangles, stars and zig-zags

are sharp, pointy and quick. Can you stomp your feet, jump like a star, or move your arms jerkily? Can you clap your hands, click your tongue, or make quick "sh" sounds?

Dotted lines are jumpy and full of little stops and starts.

Can you tiptoe, jump lightly, or move in quick little bursts? Can you tap, pop, or make fast clicking sounds?

3. Group your shapes, movements and sounds!

Pick one movement and one sound for each shape you drew. What movement matches each shape? What sound goes with it?

Here are some ideas...

SQUARE: Clap and put your legs in the air

HEART: Howl and wiggle

SPLAT: Sing high and roll about

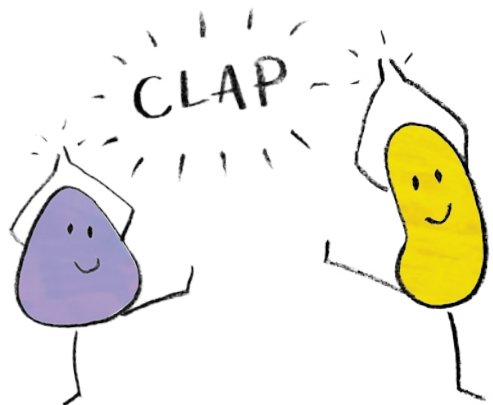
4. Become an orchestra!

Ask a grown-up to hold up the cards. When you see a shape, do the movement and sound you chose. You are a dancing orchestra! Which shape do you like best?

5. Try conducting!

Now it's your turn to hold the cards and let your grown-up be the orchestra.

What happens when you change the order? Can you make the music fast or slow?



Musical IpcizUM

Mirror rorriM

Game empə

by Sian Watson

Can you do actions and make sounds that match with a partner?

Take turns moving and making noises together with a partner - just like a game of Follow the Leader, but with sounds and music! Try out different actions and the sounds that might go with them.

Stay connected to each other by watching, listening and copying each other closely.

Can you stay connected to your partner by mirroring the actions that you can see, hear, and feel?



What to do...

1. Move together

Stand near your partner. You will copy each other like a mirror. Who will lead first, and who will copy? Remember to take turns!

2. Match each other's movements!

As the leader starts to move, the copier has to do exactly what the leader does! You can stand on one spot, or move around slowly. What happens when you try to match each other exactly? Can you switch roles?

3. Explore different shapes

Try making different shapes with your bodies. Can you make yourselves wide or narrow? Tall or tiny? Twisty or straight? What does each shape feel like? Remember to take turns leading and copying!

4. Add sounds to your shapes

Think about how your body feels with each shape. What sound could match it? Can you make the shape and the sound at the same time?

Here are some shape and sound pairs you could make...

WIDE SHAPES loud, low tones

NARROW SHAPES high-pitched squeaks

TWISTY SHAPES whooshes

TALL SHAPES noises that travel from low to high slowly

TINY SHAPES noises that travel from high to low quickly

5. Make pairs of movements and sounds

How many movement and sound pairs can you make? What could a small movement sound like? What noise could a big movement make? Have you got any instruments you could use to make sounds to go with your movements?

Here are some movement and sound pairs you could make...

WIGGLE YOUR TOES a twinkly, light noise

WINK YOUR EYE a quiet "shhhhhh" sound

TAP YOUR FINGERS a rhythm on a surface

CLAP YOUR HANDS a strong, loud sound

JUMP UP HIGH howl a long note

SPIN AROUND sing a tune

STAMP YOUR FEET shake a shaker

6. Make a mirror dance together

Put your movements and sounds together.

Can you make a sequence of at least four movement and sound pairs?

Can you match your movements exactly?

Can you switch the role of leader and copier?

Grown-ups: This helps physical coordination as well as encouraging social interaction and emotional connection.

Seeing Sounds

by Sian Watson

Mark-making to music is a wonderful way to share how music makes you feel!

Music can make us feel different things.

Can you use your imagination and choose colours, lines and shapes to draw and show how the music sounds and how it makes you feel?

What will your music look like on paper?

You can use...

- Mark-making tools (like pens, pencils, crayons, or chalk)
- Paper to draw on (like printer paper or old wrapping paper)
- Sticky tape or string
- A balloon or space hopper
- A long stick or broom
- A hula-hoop or coat hanger
- Music



What to do...

1. Set up your drawing space

You can draw on one big sheet of paper or on smaller pages. Choose your mark-making tools like pencils, crayons, chalk or pens. What colours and tools will you use?

2. Choose your music

Pick some music to listen to, or sing and hum your own sounds. You could choose calm music, fast music, or music with a strong beat. Which music will you choose first?

3. Listen and draw

Listen carefully to the music. How does the music make you feel? Is it happy or sad, calm or busy? Is the rhythm quick or slow? Are the sounds high or low? Are there different instruments? Is there any singing? Start to draw what you hear. What shapes can you hear in the music?

YOU COULD TRY...

FAST SCRIBBLES for loud or happy music

SLOW, FLOWING LINES for calm or classical music

DOTS AND DASHES for quick piano sounds

THICK, HEAVY LINES for drums and bass

THIN, LIGHT LINES for quiet sounds

ZIGZAGS for sudden or surprising sounds

4. Change the music and your tools

Listen to different music. How has the music changed? Can you change your mark-making tools to match the sound?

You could try pencils for more detailed marks, or colourful felt-tips pens to show your feelings. Can you press harder or more gently with crayons or chalk to make strong or soft shapes?

Grown-ups: There are plenty of different options for picking music! For example, you could try music that has a clear beat or strong percussion, or music that connects to the natural world, like the ocean waves or the sound of rain. You could also encourage your child to make their own sounds as they draw, like humming or singing.

5. Now experiment!

Let's invent some new ways of making marks!

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU TAPE OR TIE...

... some pens together to see how many different colours you can use at the same time?

... a pencil to a long stick and move around the space to make marks on your paper?

... a crayon to a space hopper or a balloon and bounce your marks around?

... your pens from a hula hoop or coat hanger so that they dangle down as you dance around and create marks when they touch the paper?

... chalk to your fingers and toes and make movements on the paper to see what marks you can create?

What other toys and objects could you use to make marks that fit the music?

Big Sound Hunt

by Sian Watson

Find the music hiding around your home!

Music is hiding all around your home, waiting to be discovered! Pots, pans, boxes and bottles can all become wonderful instruments.

Can you discover lots of different sounds?

What amazing instruments will you invent?

You can use...

- Kitchen items (pots, pans, bowls, cups and kitchen utensils)
- Cardboard and paper (cardboard tubes, shoe boxes, scrap paper, paper plates)
- Containers (plastic tubs, bottles, jars)
- Rice, beans or beads
- Rubber bands
- Sticky tape
- Coloured pens or pencils



What to do...

1. Hunt for your instruments

With a grown-up, explore your cupboards and empty your drawers to find things that could make interesting sounds. What can you find? What sounds do you think each item will make?

Grown-ups: Make sure to include objects of different sizes, shapes and weights. Try to provide variety to explore as many different sounds as possible!

2. Explore the sounds

Tap, shake, scrape and bang your objects to hear the different noises they make. Can you make a loud sound? How about a quiet one? Which sound is your favourite?

3. Try different beat-makers

See what happens when you use different things to make sounds. How does a wooden spoon sound on a metal pan? What about chopsticks or pencils? Do different objects and materials make different sounds?



Can you make a steady beat?

Try tapping slowly, then quickly.

Can you make a loud rhythm?

Can you make a quiet one?

What happens if you take turns copying each other's patterns?

4. Invent your own instrument!

Turn everyday things into a brand new musical instrument. Remember to decorate it with colours, patterns and marks to make it your own. Playing music can be a beautiful thing to see, as well as to hear!

What will you call your instrument?



Can you make a guitar?

Stretch rubber bands around cups, boxes or bowls to make an amazing guitar

Can you make a shaker?

Put rice or pasta in empty containers with lids. Shake it around to make music.