

## Music Makers

Tune in and create some marvellous musical instruments – all made from natural materials!

### What is it?

Inspired by the amazing instruments in our World Cultures galleries, we went for a good walk and collected lots of twigs, seeds and other outdoor goodies. See what we've turned them into, then try our hand at crafting your own!

### Snake, Rattle and Roll



### What do you need?

- A long, hollow dried stem or stick for the body – the thicker the better
- Dried seeds or rice, which go inside the snake's body to make a noise. These have to be small enough to move freely
- 2 acorn cups or seed pods for the head and tail
- 2 flat seeds or split peas for the eyes
- Paint
- Strong glue (hot glue works well but may require adult help)

### What do you do?

- Put the seeds or rice inside the body and glue on the head and tail. We used a seedpod from a large poppy for these. If you can find one with a bit of stem attached, you can make a forked tongue by cutting a slit down the middle of the stem.
- Paint your snake
- Paint and glue on the eyes

### Museum inspiration



Rattle or labajo from Northern Nigeria made from strung discs cut from gourds. Some cultures use rattles in important rites requiring communication with the spirit world as they associate its sound with otherworldly voices.

Fulani people, early 20th century.

Performance and Lives, Level 3

### Snail Away



### What do you need?

- A large shell eg whelk
- Gravel
- Small piece of cardboard
- Acorn cup or large seedpod for the face
- 2 long seedpods (eg poppy) for the horns
- 2 flat seeds or split peas for the eyes
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Paint
- Strong glue (hot glue works well but may require adult help)

## What do you do?

- If you like, paint the shell and leave to dry
- Place the shell onto the cardboard, draw round its base and cut out
- Put the gravel into the shell and stick on the cardboard base to keep everything in place
- Stick on the face and horns
- Paint the face and horns
- Paint the eyes and stick them onto the horns
- Draw on a friendly smile

## Museum inspiration



Rattle made from a hollow gourd and seeds, used in services of the Native American Church (Peyote religion).

Northern or Southern Plains people, USA, early 20th century.

Patterns of Life (Level 1)

## Creature Clamour

### What do you need?

- A pinecone
- An acorn cup or large seedpod for the face
- 2 long seedpods (eg poppy) for the ears
- 2 flat seeds or split peas for the eyes
- Paint
- Strong glue (hot glue works well but may require adult help)
- A sturdy stick



## What do you do?

- Stick the face onto the pointed end of the pinecone
- Paint the eyes and stick them onto the head
- Stick the ears onto the top of the head
- Paint the inside of the ears and nose pale pink
- To make a sound take the stick and run it over the body of the animal from back to front
- To vary the sound, experiment with different types of pinecone and sticks

## Museum Inspiration



Hyoshigi instrument from Japan. Two pieces of wood clap together to produce sound effects for theatre shows and processions.

Performance and Lives (Level 3)



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