

MY MUSIC JOURNAL

WEEK 7 (April 27 – May 1)

*Imagine that aliens have landed in Ohio. They are very curious about humans, and ask you lots of questions about what life is like here on Earth. While chatting with them, you learn that these aliens do not have music on their planet. **How would you explain music to them?** Think about when and where we hear music, how humans play/make music, and why it is important part of human life. Use both words and pictures help the aliens understand.*

Draw a picture or write your answer below.

(Continue working on a separate sheet of paper, if needed.)

Make Your Own Musical Instrument

Let's make a rainstick this week!

To make your rainstick, gather up the following household items with adult permission:

- Cardboard tube (i.e. paper towel roll)
- Aluminum foil
- Uncooked rice, dried beans, or small beads
- Cooking utensil with long handle
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Tape and/or rubber bands
- Paint, colored pencils, crayons, glitter, etc. (optional for decorating your rainstick)

To make your rainstick, follow the steps in my YouTube video using this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mny8XPjHsqc&feature=youtu.be>

Or, use these instructions. Some adult help and supervision will be needed.

- 1) Cut two construction paper circles that are slightly larger than the diameter of your cardboard tube. Fold the edges of one of the circles down/around the tube, and secure them to the tube using tape and/or a rubber band. Your tube should now have one open end and one closed end.
- 2) Tear off a piece of aluminum foil that is about twice as long as your tube, and cut it down the middle lengthwise. Roll up each piece of foil lengthwise so you have two foil "snakes".
- 3) Coil the foil snakes around the end of a cooking utensil handle (or any other similar object you can find at home). Carefully, unwrap the foil from the handle keeping the coils intact. Your foil snake should now look like a spiral. Repeat with the other foil snake.
- 4) Intertwine the two spiral snakes and insert them both into your cardboard tube.
- 5) Pour uncooked rice, dried beans, or beads into your tube until it is 1/4 to 1/3 full. Close the other end of your tube with the remaining circle from step one. Your rainstick is now complete! Slowly tip it back and forth to see how it sounds.
- 6) Decorate and take a picture of your rainstick. Email your picture to Mrs. Wright.

Keep experimenting. What type of bead, bean, or rice sound most like rain drops? Would it sound different if you used a different type or length of tube? What other instruments can you make using the same materials?

For other ideas and homemade instrument projects, check out the "Dallas Symphony Orchestra for Kids" webpage using the link below:

<https://www.mydso.com/dso-kids/activities/make-your-own-instrument>

If you have any questions about this activity, want more music resources, or need materials printed for your student please contact Mrs. Wright at alli.wright@loganelm.org.