

# Hearing Walks

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### Materials

paper or notebook  
pen

### What to do

1. Before going outside on a "hearing walk," explain to the children that they will be listening for sounds.
2. On the walk, ask the children to describe what they hear. Write down their observations.
3. After returning from the walk, ask the children to recall the sounds they heard. Compare their recollections with the list from the walk. This activity will help the children learn to listen and recall what was heard.
4. Sing a "call-and-response" song where you sing a phrase and the children repeat what you sing. Ella Jenkins' song, "Did You Feed My Cow?" from the album *You Sing a Song and I'll Sing a Song*, is an example of this type of song.

 Phyllis Esch, Export, PA

# Music Shakers

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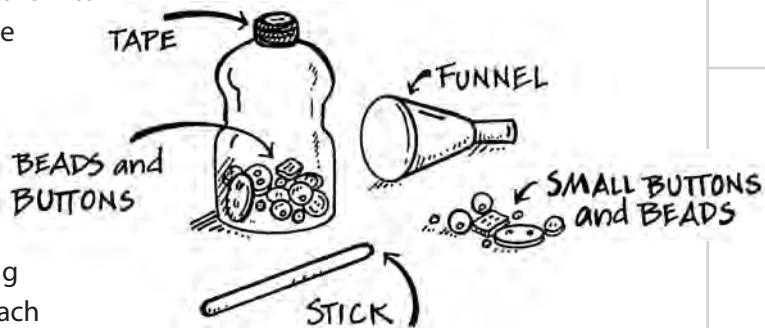
### Materials

small, empty water bottles with lids  
funnels  
small sound-producing items (such as beads or small buttons)  
tape  
markers  
stickers  
music tapes or CDs  
sticks (tongue depressors, craft sticks, and 6-8" pieces of small dowel rods)

### What to do

1. Open the empty bottles to let the insides dry completely. Give one to each child.
2. Show the children how to use a funnel to place the sound-making objects of their choice into their bottles.
3. Screw the lids on tightly and tape for extra security.
4. Let the children decorate the outside of their bottles with permanent markers and stickers.
5. Play music and encourage the children to shake their bottles with the music.

6. Provide small sticks for them to rub on the ridges on the sides of the bottle to make a different sound.
7. If desired, have the children make a classroom set by putting one type of item into each bottle.



 Sandra Nagel, White Lake, MI

## Now Hear This!

### Materials

plastic film canisters  
 objects that make different sounds (see activity)  
 duct tape  
 hot glue gun (adult only)  
 two or three shoeboxes  
 4" x 6" index cards

### What to do

1. Ask for donations of empty film canisters from a film-processing store. Collect objects that make different sounds, such as pebbles, nails, cotton, corks, shells, sand, paper clips, water, dry cereal, nuts and bolts, jingle bells, raisins, keys, rice, and so on.
2. Fill two canisters with each object, making sets of two per sound. You also can use the same materials of different sizes or amounts. Seal the tops with glue or tape. Place the canisters in a shoebox for storage.
3. Print the names of each object on separate index cards. Glue a sample of the object on each card. Place the completed cards in another shoebox for storage.
4. Encourage the children to shake the canisters and match the sounds. Start with only a few canisters.
5. After the children have explored for a while, mix up the canisters and introduce the identification cards. Encourage the children to shake the canisters and identify the sounds by placing them on the cards.