

# Nature's instruments

Encouraging children to extend their vocabulary through exploring the sounds of the natural world and making their own natural instruments

## EYFS

**Early Learning Goals:** Communication & language, Expressive arts and design

**Activity type:** small group with an adult

**Length of activity:** 20 minutes

**Outdoor requirements:** playground

**Resources:** range of natural materials e.g. pebbles, seeds, gravel, sand, sticks. Containers with lids, cardboard/plastic tubes and blindfolds.

### Starter activity:

Take the group outside on a sound walk to listen to the natural sounds they can hear. Cupping their hands behind their ears provides a reflective surface for catching sounds and to hear sounds behind them; they can just cup their hands in front of their ears. Encourage the children to tell you what they have heard.

### Main activity:

Ask the children to recreate some of the sounds they heard using the natural materials and other resources provided e.g. knocking stones together, making a rain stick etc. Encourage the children to talk about the sounds they are creating e.g. the swishing of the wind in the trees.



### Plenary activity:

Children can share their sounds with other children by standing at either side of a long hollow tube. One makes their sound and the other child tells them what the noise sounds like. If the tube is short, you could blindfold the child who is listening.

### Specific risk assessment

Check area has no litter on ground prior to activity.