

Parent Information Sheet: Enlivening Stories

How can music **enliven story telling**? Here are some tips for bringing a story alive.

Ideas for props/instruments

- 'Rubbish/junk percussion': a cardboard box, plastic bag, paper, tubes, food packaging, foil. Look for anything that would make an interesting sound. You could even make this a rubbish treasure hunt, raiding the recycling bin and exploring the sounds that different rubbish can make.



What to do

- Empty all the rubbish collected onto the floor and let your children explore it. See how they interact with it. Give them wooden spoons to tap the different materials.
- Pick a favourite song and encourage them to keep the beat with their rubbish. For example, I Hear Thunder using an upside-down shoebox and hitting it like a drum, with a drum roll for the thunder and light pitter-patter for the rain.
- Ask the children to describe the sounds they are making: loud, soft, scrunchy, scratchy, high, low etc. What animals do they sound like? Could crunchy paper be the sound of the sea or rustling leaves? Once the children have explored the materials, introduce the junk percussion to your storytelling.

Telling the story

- Find a book and look at its pictures, ask your children; 'what's going on in this picture?', 'what do you think that sounds like?', 'how can we make that sound with our rubbish?'
- Pick an action, rhyme or song for one or more of the characters. Sing/act it together and link it to the character.
- Having decided on sounds, actions, rhymes or songs for the different characters or actions in the book, read the story with these sounds or actions at the right time to help with telling the story.



Examples

- **The Very Hungry Caterpillar** - you could use your junk percussion (rubbish) to make the sounds of eating apples by scrunching newspaper.
- **Winnie The Pooh** - making the different sounds for the animals, e.g. 'boing' for Tigger or 'oink' for Piglet. Ask the children what noise does a certain character make and see what they come up with.
- **Harry And His Bucket Of Dinosaurs** – banging drums for stomping dinosaurs...

Boogie Mites share information, links and weekly music sessions for families to enjoy at home on the Boogie Mites Music Club Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BoogieMitesMusicClub