



Take it Outside: Summer

Mystical Music

Introduction

Listen to the wind rustle the leaves of a tree. It's almost like a whisper! Even the gentlest breeze causes a sound - just imagine what a gale would sound like! Get ready to make your own mystical music and make a tree speak.

You will need:

- a sturdy stick
- string or coloured wool
- a selection of items to hang from your stick

Natural: sticks, leaves, pine cones, beech nut shells, feathers.

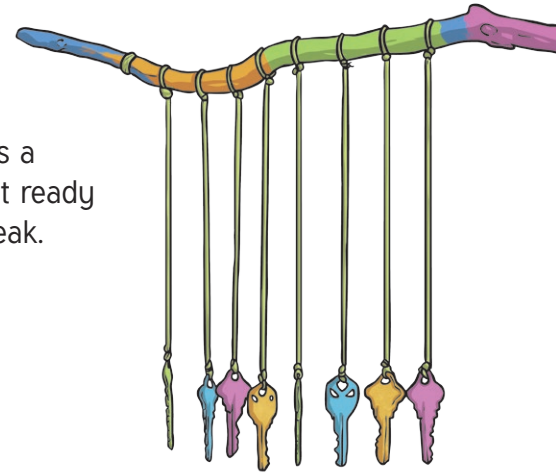
Man-made: old cutlery, old keys, old chime bars, beads.

Key Questions

- Will you choose natural or man-made materials? Why?
- How do you want your instrument to sound?
- How will you make your instrument make mystical music, even on a calm day?

What to do:

1. Set the scene by recapping the story of Green Willow. Pause to focus on the part of the story where Tomotada heard the whisper, "Green Willow! Green Willow!" Do you really think he heard a whisper? What other explanation can you offer?
2. The rustle of leaves makes a gentle, relaxing noise and does sometimes sound just like a whisper. Go for a walk near a tree. Take time to stop and listen - what can you hear?
3. You will need to find one sturdy stick. You might want to wrap coloured wool around it or even paint it.
4. Next, gather the materials you wish to hang from it. Consider the effect you want to create. Gather natural materials for a soft, natural sound. Remember to only use objects that are on the ground. Choose man-made materials for a louder sound.
5. Use coloured wool or string to attach your chosen objects to the sturdy stick.





6. Now, find the perfect place to hang your wind chime.
7. Sit nearby and enjoy the sound. Does it sound like a whisper? What could it be saying?

Ways to Support

Some children may need help tying the objects onto the stick. Choosing objects such as a key with a hole in could help. Try nominating a buddy to help with knots.

Ways to Extend

Can you create a tuned wind chime? Investigate the range of sounds your objects make. Try adding them to the stick in order from quietest to loudest or lowest pitch to highest.

Curriculum Links

Music: Improvise music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music