

# Leap Into Science Week 2022

## "Make Sense of Our World!"

### Today's Activity: Creating a Rainmaker!

**Step 1:** Using a paper towel roll, cut out a circle from a paper bag that's slightly larger than the circumference of your paper towel roll. Trace the paper towel roll in the middle of your circle. Cut out about 4 equally spaced slits from the edge of the circle to your traced circle.

**Step 2:** Fold up your paper bag circle over your cardboard roll. Use masking tape to attach your circle to your cardboard tube and seal off an end.

**Step 3:** Grab a sheet of aluminum foil that's about 3x as long as your tube. Scrunch the aluminum foil into a long snake. Fold it to create a bunch of kinks. (This slows the fall of your rice and corn to make it sound more like a real rain stick!) Next, stick it into your tube!

**Step 4:** Mix up a bunch of corn and rice to pour into the tube. (Or give the option to use just corn or just rice— compare sounds later!)

**Step 5:** Pour your rice/corn into the cardboard tube. Then, seal the other end by repeating steps 1 & 2.

**Step 6:** Decorate your rainmaker! Cut out a piece of paper that will cover your cardboard tube to decorate!

**Step 7:** Tape the artwork on around your tube. Listen to the sounds, compare with friends!



#### Materials Needed:

- Paper towel roll
- Paper bag
- Masking tape
- Corn and rice
- Construction paper and markers
- Aluminum foil

#### Books to check out today!

- So Many Sounds by Tim McCanna
- Quiet LOUD! By Leslie Patricelli
- Chew, Chew, Gulp! By Lauren Thompson
- Oscar and the Bat— A Book About Sounds By Geoff Waring

### One Man Band!

From your kitchen, grab a plastic bowl, a metal pot, and a tin pan. Place these items in front of your baby or set on a table for your child. Give the child a wooden spoon and encourage them to hit the 3 types of dishes. Talk to your child about the different sounds each dish makes. What happens if you exchange the wooden spoon for a whisk?

### Outdoor Music Makers!

#### Materials:

- Plastic Bottles (bottles with handles work best)
- String
- Sticks (chop sticks or smaller sticks you find outdoors)

#### Instructions:

- Tie string around the handle or neck of the bottles, secure string with glue.
- Hang from hooks or branches.
- Optional: Fill some of the bottles with water and objects like rice, beans or pennies so the bottles make different sounds.

#### Activities:

- Invite children to explore the sounds they can make.
- Play a simple rhythm, have the children copy the rhythm.
- Explore pitch: which bottle makes the lowest pitch? The highest?
- Turn it into a math game. Write numerals on the bottle.



Special shoutout to Mosswood Connections for this great idea!

# Wrapping Paper Fun!

Who knew a few sheets of wrapping paper could provide so much fun for your infant! Here are just a few ways for your infant to explore their sense of hearing with wrapping paper!

1. **Crinkle and crunch:** Make baby a sound detective! Crinkle a piece of wrapping paper out of baby's line of vision on one side of their body. Do the same thing on the other side of baby's body. Next, make the sound above or behind them. When this happens, baby may laugh or look surprised. Pay attention, do they look toward the sound, turn their head, or reach for the paper?
2. **Wrap book:** Cut pieces of wrapping paper with familiar images for baby (animals, baby items, balls etc) Using index cards, glue the pictures on and cover them with contact paper. Punch 2 holes in the index card and string yarn through each to bind the book together. Sit with baby and read the new book together. Talk about what you see on the pages, allow baby to turn pages and touch the book. Your child will love the sound of your voice and the colorful images you chose!
3. **Touch and hear:** Using wrapping paper with various pictures (animal themed would be perfect!), any time baby touches an item, make the appropriate sound for them (touches the pig, say oink, cow says moo). Not only does baby get to hear the sounds but it is a fun way to teach cause and effect!
4. **Treasure box:** Select wrapping paper with interesting pictures, and tape it around a box lid that's easy to remove. Place an object, such as a small pillow or set of bells, in the box. Encourage your baby to play "peek-a-boo" by lifting the lid to see what's under it. Your baby will enjoy anticipating the surprise under the lid. Talk about the sounds the objects make, encourage baby to imitate those sounds!

\*\*Thanks to Scholastic for these great ideas!\*\*

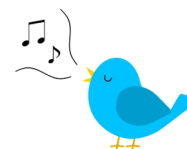


## Picture Match!

Find various sound clips and matching pictures (ex- the sound of a bird chirping and a picture of a bird, the sound of a car and a picture of a car, etc.) Play the sounds for the children and ask them to match the sound to the correct picture!

## Sound Walk

Take a walk with children outside. Bring either a tape recorder or a notepad and record the sounds that you and the children hear (birds singing, wind blowing, etc). Have a discussion with children about the sounds they heard, and then let them mimic the sounds.



## “Food For Thought!”

While you may hear the word food and think about the sense of Taste, today we are actually going to experiment with our sense of hearing while we have a snack! Have the children chew a bite of food, listen to the sound it makes, and compare the sounds made by soft foods and hard or crunchy foods. Try bananas, bread, crackers, chips, carrots, etc. Have them listen while you chew on the same foods. Were the sounds louder when they were chewing or when you were chewing? Ask them to predict whether the sounds will be louder or quieter if they cover their ears with their hands while chewing. Then let them experiment to see if their predictions were correct. The sounds we hear while chewing are actually louder when our ears are covered. Do you know why? There is a tube that connects each ear to your nose and throat called a Eustachian Tube. When you plug your ears from the outside, you can still hear sounds from inside of your mouth through this tube. Everything you hear sounds louder because the noises from outside your ears are being blocked out.

Please Note:

Always be cautious when using food during experiments. Be mindful of allergies and a child's ability to chew different solid foods.

### Did You Know?

Your ears are home to the three smallest bones in your body. It is because of these three tiny bones that you can hear. They are called the hammer (its scientific name is *malleus*), anvil (or *incus*), and stirrup (or *stapes*).

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