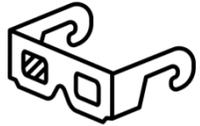


Royal College of Music Museum

Sound Collectors - Percussion Activity Pack

- To learn about percussion instruments and how they make sound
- To discover a unique object from the Royal College of Music
- To complete a Sound Collector Challenge

MISSION 1: Collect



WATCH: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-lJctvybAJ8>

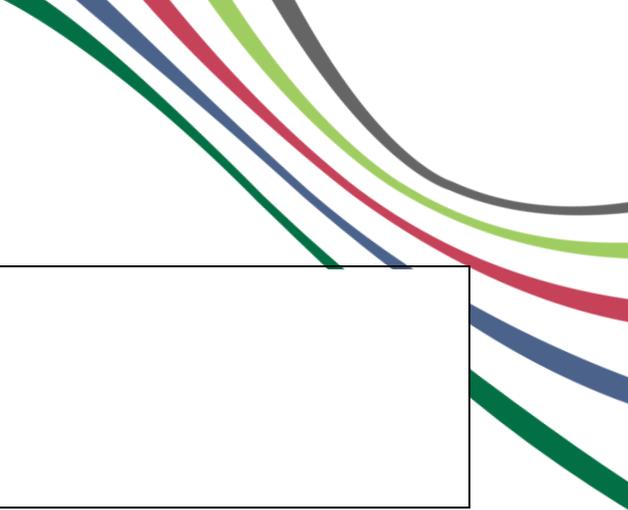
Please watch the end section from 15:15 – 16:10.



Time to collect! Watch the video above and make notes as a group.

What is this instrument called?

How does it make sound?



How does the musician stop the sound?

How do you think musicians change the volume (how loud or how soft a note it)?



MISSION 2: Discover



The Royal College of Music Museum is home to a collection of very special objects. Time to discover something you've never seen before!



Snakeskin tambourine

This tambourine comes from China (in Chinese it's called a Pa fang ku).

Tambourines have skin stretched across the top. Originally this would have been from an animal but today we use man-made materials instead.

This tambourine uses the skin of a python snake! This is because the reverberations of the skin are supposed to make a unique sound. Often musicians had to moisturise the skin to stop it from drying out and breaking. The snakeskin on this tambourine is very old and has dried over the years, causing it to rip.



Time to collect! Make notes as a group.

Where does this tambourine come from?

What animal skin has been stretched across this instrument?

What might musicians have had to do to keep this tambourine from drying and cracking?

MISSION 3: Challenge

For this mission you will need to collect the following materials:

- 3 glasses or glass jars
- A jug of water
- Metal spoon



This is a pitch challenge. Can you pour the right amount of water in the jars to play 3 different notes (or the tune 'Hot Cross Buns')?

How to do it

- Pour different amounts of water into the glasses or jars
- Gently tap them with your pencil to see what sound they make
- Add or take away water to change the sounds (make them higher or lower)
- Do this until you can make 3 different notes or play the tune 'Hot Cross Buns'

