

Royal College of Music Museum

Sound Collectors - Brass 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

Brass Family

Trumpet(top left)

Trombone(bottom left)

French horn

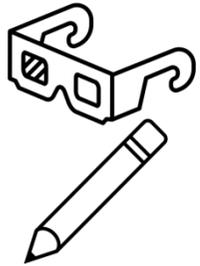
Tuba



Here are just a few instruments from the brass family.

MISSION 1: Collect

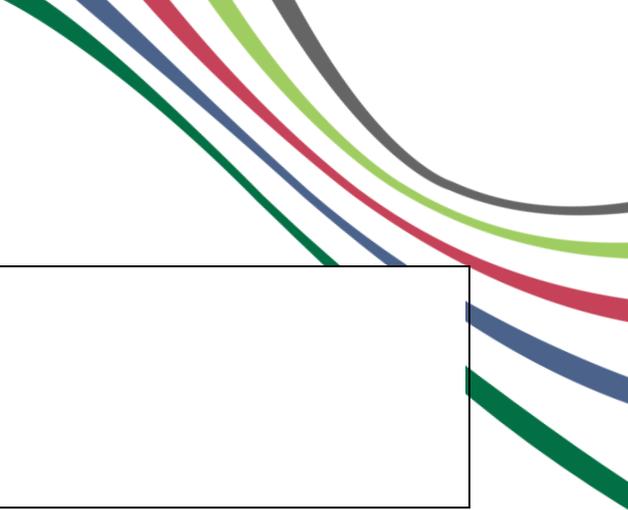
WATCH: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EndhDQWlUgg>



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

What is this instrument?

How does it make sound?



How do you think musicians change the pitch (how high or how low a note is)?

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!



Animal horn

This instrument comes from Africa.

Horns like these are made from the antlers of animals like sheep or goats.

This horn has tribal decorations carved into the side.

Animal horns like these are hollow. They make a sound when you blow in the smaller end. The air vibrates inside and (if you used a really big breath) a loud sound comes out the other side.

Horns like these would have been used for lots of occasions:

- Hunting
- Battles
- Calling signals between neighbouring tribes
- Ceremonies like celebrations and rituals

Horns are still used today in some African tribes.





Time to collect! Make notes as a group.

What animals do these horns usually come from?

How do they make a sound?

What sort of occasions might animal horns have been used for?

MISSION 3: Challenge

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

- Piece of paper
- Scissors and sticky tape
- Pencil



Using the materials, can you make a paper horn?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VIOcJUF4UMA>

How to make it

- Roll the pencil in the paper, start diagonally at the corner.
- Push the pencil out so you are just left with the rolled-up paper.
- Use your sticky tape to secure the loose flap in the middle.
- Take your scissors and carefully snip a small cut on both the left and right sides of one end (make a triangle).
- Fold this down over the hole, and suck air in the other end. The triangle will flap and create a buzzing sound.

