



*Dear Family,*

**In my class today** we reused a variety of materials to make musical instruments.

**Did You Know?**

- Musical instruments have been a part of human society for much of our history. Cultures all over the world use music as a way to communicate, celebrate, worship, entertain, and express emotion. Historians are not sure how long ago the first instrument was invented, but they have found “flutes” made from animal bones that are over 30,000 years old.
- People tend to be familiar with the recycling of paper, plastic, glass, and aluminum into a variety of things we use in our daily lives. Many items can also be recycled to create musical instruments. Certain types of wood can be recycled to produce guitars. Recycled plastic can be used to create recorders, and brass (a type of metal) can be recycled to make trombones and tubas.

**Ask Your Child:**

- Tell me some of the things that you used to make your instrument.
- How does your instrument work? How do you play it?
- What kind of sound does your instrument make?

**Activities To Do With Your Child:**

- You can make instruments at home with your child. You can use any type of container. Remember, an instrument is anything that can be used to make a rhythmic sound! An oatmeal container, yogurt cup, or butter tub can be turned into a drum. A plastic soda bottle or a milk container can be filled with dry rice or pasta. When you shake it, it will make a wonderful sound. Rubber bands and a cereal box can be used to create a guitar. Make more than one instrument and you and your child can make music together!

**Vocabulary Words To Use With Your Child:** reuse, recycle, rhythm, instrument, music, environment