



Keep not Weep!

Resources

Instruments (tuned, untuned, reclaimed), large pieces of paper/whiteboard/chalk board, mark making equipment, audio recording device (optional), music (optional)

Learning opportunities

- Development of active listening, speaking, symbolic thinking, pre-reading and writing skills, composition skills
- Interpreting sounds they have listened to
- Development of IT skills by making recordings of music made by themselves

Activity ideas

- Play a piece of music (not a song) and model how to listen to it, refrain from talking whilst listening. Play the music again and this time make marks on a large piece of paper as it plays. The marks made are a way of representing the sounds heard. Lots of short sounds, could be lots of dots and dashes. A loud sudden sound could be a star. There is no right or wrong answer, the response made by the listener is personal to them. Once the child understands what to do, play the same piece of music or a different one and let them make their own marks. Dependent upon the child's age/development go back, play the music again to see if they can point to their marks as they listen to the music. Children who have the ability to verbalise their thoughts can use words to describe the music they hear and marks they have made.
- Provide opportunities to make music using instruments. Record the child's/children's compositions. Play the recording back to the child/children, encourage them to record it using symbols as described above.
- As the child/children develop and become more accomplished at noting down their music using symbols, explore how to write it down i.e. horizontally from left to right.

