**Musical activities for you and your child to do at home.**

**“Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything.” – Plato**

Teaching music at home can seem tricky or even daunting, but there are plenty of resources out there that can help your child maintain their musical experience. I would suggest trying to do a little music each day to enhance your child’s home learning experience, rather than having a long music ‘lesson’. Below I have included some website links and some other suggested activities that you can do with your child or children. Whilst some of them have a specific Key Stage reference, a lot of them can be used across the year groups; so if you have more than one child many of these activities can be enjoyed as a family group.

Mr Cowan (Music Co-ordinator

**Websites**

**Sing-up at home.**

<http://www.singup.org/singupathome>

This link should take you to a page with a bank of songs which all children can access. I believe that new songs are also added regularly. Scroll down to access playlists, some of which might help with the home-schooling situation-e.g. ’Songs to Lift You Up’ and ‘Songs to Calm and Settle’.

**Play it! (Bring the noise)**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/bring-the-noise/eyfs-ks1-music-play-it-bring-the-noise/z4sq92p>

This resource is designed mainly for younger children (Reception and Years 1 and 2), although the game element might appeal to some older children too. The activities allow children to explore how a song is constructed, practice clapping to a beat and to add their own contributions to a song.

**Meet the orchestra with Albert’s Band**

<https://www.royalalberthall.com/about-the-hall/news/2020/april/meet-the-orchestra-with-alberts-band>

If you have older children who are more curious about the instruments in an orchestra or who might be interested in learning an instrument, this website from the Royal Albert Hall has a series of YouTube videos where different instruments are introduced in a child-friendly way. Another website that would be good to dip into, looking at a different group of instruments each week.

**Young Voices**

<https://www.youngvoices.co.uk/for-children/>

Again, probably more useful for KS2 pupils. This website allows pupils to rehearse and practice songs with video tuition. Includes the Garlinge favourite, Power in Me! Click on the ‘Music Room’ link and enter the code YV2021 where prompted.

**Other Activities**

**Junk Instrument making.**

**“Did you hear about the rubber piano, the rubber guitar and the rubber drum? They formed a rubber band!”**

A good activity which combines music, art, design and technology and science is for children to design and make their own musical instruments from junk items. Sounds can be created by hitting, plucking or blowing. Can children find out how to play the instruments at different volumes or how to change the pitch of a note (how high or low the note is)? Can one instrument be used to create a series of different sounds? What rhythms can be played on the instrument? Older children might also like to explore and explain how the sound has been created (if your child is in Year 4, they might be able to link this to their recent science topic)

**Musical activities at home**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/bring-the-noise/half-term-music-activities/zmmpxyc/>

This page has a range of suggested musical activities you can try at home, including using household items to create an orchestra, making a simple guitar and using drawing to help children to think about music. I’m sure you and your child will have plenty of ideas (let your imagination run riot!); there are also ideas on the internet to help you. I typed ‘junk instrument making KS1’ (or ‘KS2’) and found plenty of ideas out there on the web!

**Blue Peter Music Badge**

If you play a musical instrument and need some incentive to keep practicing, perhaps you might like to earn your Blue Peter Music Badge. We would love to hear from anybody who has earnt this badge!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/bp-music-badge?collection=blue-peter-badges>

**Interactive games**

A series of interactive computer games from MusicTeachers.co.uk which explore pitch, rhythm and so on. Also includes printable wordsearches of musical words.

<https://www.musicteachers.co.uk/resources/funstuff>



**“I don’t sing because I’m happy; I’m happy because I sing.” – William James**