

## Homemade Cymbals

These homemade cymbals are perfect for younger kids to make and play in their own kitchen band!

### **You will need:**

Pie plates  
Sparkly stickers



### **To make:**

Decorate the inside of the pie plates with stickers.

Hold the rim of the plates and bang the bases together for a nice bang.

## Mardi Gras Castanets

### **You will need:**

Paper plate  
Paints/colouring pencils/felts  
Lids from plastic milk/juice bottles  
Strong glue

### **Instructions:**

Decorate the back of the paper plate and leave to dry if painted.

Fold the plate in half (with the paint to the outside) and, with strong glue, stick the milk bottle lids along the inside edge of the plate, making sure to leave a gap a couple of inches either side of the fold line.

When the glue is dry, play your castanet by holding it between your thumb and fingers and clicking together.



# Mardi Gras Shakers

To make these Mardi Gras shakers you will need to raid the junk cupboard for supplies. Kids can use them in a very noisy Mardi Gras parade!

## You will need:

Small empty plastic water bottles, with lids  
Acrylic paints  
Glitter, ribbon, sequins and/or beads in Mardi Gras colours  
optional or decoration  
Dried beans, lentils or similar



## Instructions:

Using the acrylic paints, decorate the outside of the plastic water bottles in whatever design you choose.

When the paint is dry, decorate your "shaker" further using glitter, ribbons, sequins or beads. Let the children really go for it!

Drop a small number of beans into the bottle (make sure the inside is completely dry first!) and close the lid firmly. Now, shake, rattle and roll!

## Mardi Gras Cup Shakers

### You will need:

2 polystyrene cups  
Green and purple paint  
Dried beans or rice  
Gold star stickers  
Sticky tape



### Instructions:

Paint one cup purple and one green.

Leave to dry and then decorate with stickers.

Fill one cup about 1/3 full of rice or bean. Turn the other cup upside down and tape securely together.

Shake and enjoy!

## Very Simple Marching Drum

### You will need:

Old coffee tin/ chocolate tin  
Paint  
Sequins, stickers, ribbon etc to decorate  
PVA glue  
Strong glue  
Ribbon/cord (to allow the drum to be worn)



### Instructions:

Paint the tin and leave to dry. Decorate the drum with stickers, glitter, ribbon and anything else that you fancy.

Make two holes in the tin lid, thread through some cord or ribbon and tie tight knots on the underside of the lid so the cord is secure. With strong glue stick the lid onto the tin.

Wear your drum and march with pride.

Use two wooden spoons to use as drum sticks.

## Make a Balloon Drum

**Find a pot to use.** Find an old pot to use as the body of the drum. A pot with a diameter of less than 12 inches works best

**Get the right size balloon.** The balloon is going to be the head of the drum so it needs to be tight but large enough to fit around the top of the pot. If the balloon is too small, it might be too tight and break when you drum. [\[1\]](#)

- A 24 inch balloon works best for pots 10 to 12 inches in diameter.
- A 16 inch balloon works best for pots under 10 inches in diameter.

**Cut off the mouthpiece of the balloon.** Use scissors to cut the mouth-piece off of the balloon. Make sure you only cut the mouth piece and not the body of the balloon .

**Stretch the balloon on the pot and secure it.** Secure the pot in between your knees or ask a friend to hold it securely. Put the balloon over one side of the pot and carefully stretch it over the entire top of the pot. Secure the balloon on the pot by stretching several rubber bands onto the top of the pot or use sticky tape all around the edge of the balloon.

**Play your drum.** Use lightweight wooden sticks to play your balloon drum. Chopsticks, small wooden dowels, or pencils work great for drumming on a balloon drum.

