

Testing materials

To decide on materials and features for your instrument, first lets experiment with some sounds around the house.

- 1. Find elastic bands.** Try holding the band in one hand whilst making it ping and vibrate with the other.

What changes when you stretch it out further? Can it make a sound when you don't stretch it at all?

- 2. Turn some pots and pans over on a table.** Put them next to each other and hit them with a spoon. How does the sound of each pan change depending on its size? How does the sound change when you use a different beater?

- 3. Choose a dry ingredient (pasta and rice work well!) and fill up an empty container.** Put the lid on and shake it! What changes when you add more? What happens when you change the size of the container?

- 4. Put a glass on a table.** Fill it with a little water and lightly tap it with a metal spoon.

What happens when you fill it with more/less water? Can you play it whilst pouring in more water?

Which experiment was your favourite?



Which was the loudest?

Which was the softest?

