

Music with Ms. Carissa

“Not So Elementary”

www.musicwithmscarissa.com

Recycled Guitar Activity

Carissa Knoles

What You Need:

- Shoe Box (1 per each child; Teachers should pre-cut a 2-3 inch slit in one of the shorter sides of the shoe box prior to beginning the activity)
 - Paper towel roll (1 per each child)
 - Various sizes of rubber bands
- Markers, crayons, or pencils for decorating

What to Do:

1. Allow children to experiment with ways to attach the rubber bands around their shoe box. Encourage them to attach them around the “short ends”, holding the box vertically. (This is a great opportunity for children to practice problem solving independently or in a small group! It is also great fine/gross motor exercise!)
2. Direct children to pinch one end of the paper towel roll and insert it into the slit in the shoe box. Depending on the age of the child, some assistance may be required for this step.
3. Allow children to decorate their guitar any way they choose and rock on! Identify the shoe box portion as the “body” of the guitar and the paper towel roll as the “neck.”

Questions for Understanding:

Ask children,

- “Does each rubber band sound the same when you strum it? Why or why not?”
 - “Where does the sound come from?”
 - “What is different about this instrument and a piano?”
- “What other materials could we use to make other instruments?”

