

Artful **MUSIC** & **MUSICAL** Art

~ A Collaboration Between Mrs. Basgier & Mrs. Schiller ~

Hello AEEC Friends! This week Mrs. Basgier & Mrs. Schiller have teamed up to bring you a special Art & Music combined activity. We're asking you to create your very own maraca (or 2!) that you can then use to make your own music. We miss you all so much, but we hope you're having fun at home! We can't wait to see what you come up with this week 😊

I Can...create a maraca out of materials in my home.

I Can...improvise a rhythm, playing fast and slow on my maracas.

What is a maraca?

A maraca is a musical instrument you shake. The stones or beans inside rattle against the hollow case in time to the beat of the music. It is a member of the percussion family.

Activity #1

Create your maraca

Potential Supplies

- Plastic Easter eggs
- Filler for sound (dried rice, beans, or plastic beads)
- Plastic spoons
- Tape or glue
- Decorative tape (Washi tape)
- Stickers
- Markers or Paint
- Other decorative items

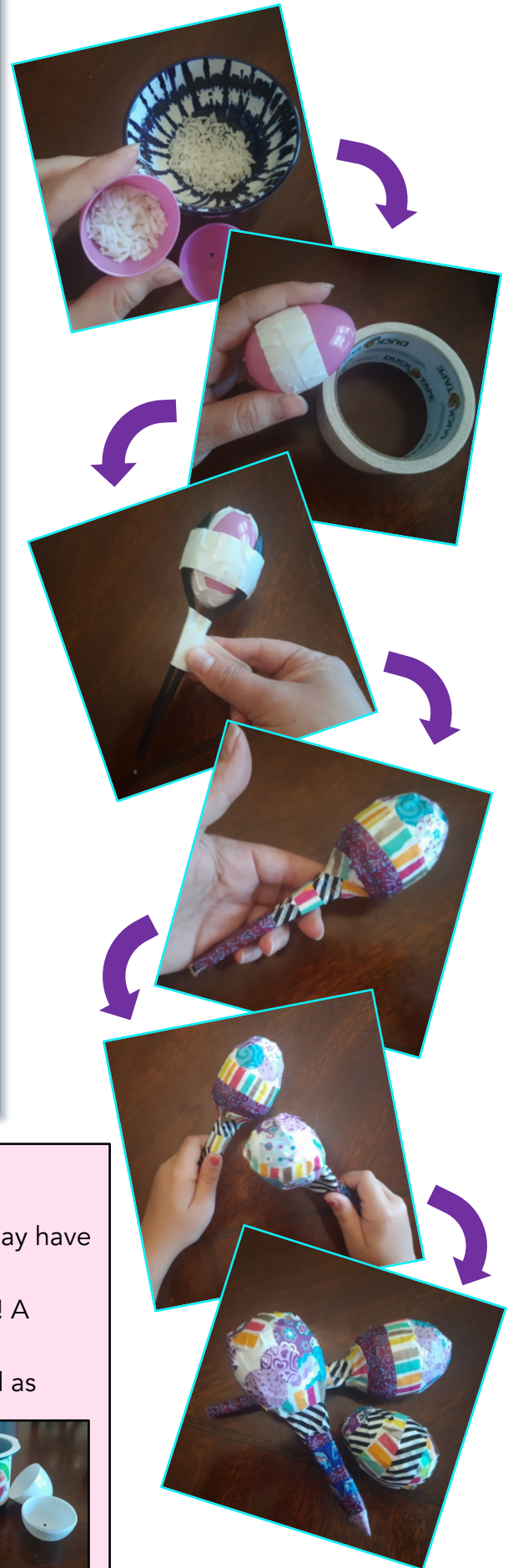
Don't worry if you don't have all of these items. There are potential alternatives or work arounds! Read on...



Directions

1. **Gather all materials** you plan to use. Your design may depend on the supplies you have on hand.
2. **Fill your egg.** First you'll have to decide what filler to use. I tried rice, beans, and plastic beads in mine. I liked the way they all sounded, but rice was my favorite. You might find something you like better! It doesn't take a lot of filler to make good noise. Once you've filled your egg, secure it with tape; make sure to wrap plenty around to secure your seams. (Masking tape or Duck tape work best for this step. Hot glue might help, too!)
3. **Attach spoons** for a handle. Place your egg in between two plastic spoons and secure with tape (masking or Duck work best here, too). Wrap your tape all the way down the handle for some added support.
4. **Decorate your maraca!** This step is where you get to show your creativity. There are lots of ways to do it!
 - a. **Draw or paint** on it-probably works best on masking tape.
 - b. **Add stickers**
 - c. **Wrap with decorative tape**
 - d. **Glue other decorative items** to it.

*Wrapping round objects with flat things like tape can be difficult; you may need to do some extra smashing down of wrinkles in tape or stickers!
5. Take a picture and share your work! (Upload to Seesaw if you're able, and we can comment on it.)
6. **Shake your music maker!**



Helpful Problem Solving

Don't have plastic eggs? Use any small plastic containers you may have on hand, like yogurt or fruit cups.

Don't have plastic spoons? Make your maraca without a handle! A hand held "egg shaker" works, too.

Don't have rice or beans? Use any small hard items you can find as filler-maybe even rocks or pebbles from outside.

As always, there are lots of creative solutions to this problem. Your maraca doesn't have to look like mine, and it certainly doesn't need to be super fancy.

It just needs to make noise!

Make yours unique, and have some fun!



Activity #2

Make music with your maraca

Keep the Beat

After you create your maracas, have fun exploring and creating your own rhythms!

Remember, *rhythm* is a strong, regular, repeated pattern of sound.

Explore Tempo

Watch the Music K8 video below to review different tempos in music.

Can you explain the difference between *presto* and *largo*?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iN5Jv9s-z80>

Shake Your Music Maker!

- Practice playing your maracas very fast (*presto*) and very slow (*largo*).
- Play along to your favorite songs, and have fun!
- Or, try creating your own rhythm or song.

If you'd like to share, please take a video of you playing your maracas and upload it to Seesaw! We can't wait to see what you come up with, sweet friends 😊

