



## Kitchen Jam Time!

**Kitchen Jam Session:** Chances are, your kitchen is a treasure trove of musical instruments waiting to happen—all you need is a little creativity. As you listen to “Little Sugar,” help your child explore your kitchen for anything she can use to make sound. Some suggestions include:

<b>Drums:</b>	plastic storage containers
<b>Rhythm sticks:</b>	silverware
<b>Sand blocks:</b>	dry sponges
<b>Shakers:</b>	packages of oatmeal, rice, cereal, or dried beans

**Name That Sound:** After your child has had time to explore each instrument, ask her to close her eyes as you play one of them. When you’re finished, let her open her eyes and identify which instrument you played. Make the game more challenging by playing two instruments in succession. Older children can listen to and repeat a sequence of three or more instruments—for example: drums, shakers, shakers or shakers, sand blocks, drums.

**As If Having Fun Isn’t Enough:** By exploring instruments of different timbres, your child is actively developing her aural discrimination skills. At its most basic level, aural discrimination is the ability to tell one sound from another. With practice, this ability allows children to identify the voices of friends and family members. With more practice, children learn to group musical instruments according to their similar sounds.

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