Music to Our Ears!

Help! Hacker stole all the musical instruments from the borgs in R-Fair City on the day of their big parade! Can you invent a musical instrument to save the parade?

Make Your Instrument

1. Play with the materials. Find sounds that you like by shaking, striking, or spinning objects.
2. Use the “My Invention Design” handout to plan your Music Maker. Make a sketch to show what it looks like.
3. Make your instrument and try it out. Does it work the way you planned?
4. What changes can you make to your instrument to improve how it sounds?

How Am I Inventing?

Inventors take time to plan an invention before they start building. They start with an idea of what they want their invention to do and make a plan. When they stick to that plan, they can build an invention that works the way they want. This is called designing for function. When you design your instrument to make a particular sound, you’re designing for function, too.

Materials

For your Music Maker:
- plastic and paper cups, paper plates, beans, beads, jingle bells, paper towel rolls, pipe cleaners, paper straws, waxed paper, comb, rubber bands, balloons, craft sticks, plastic salad bar containers, aluminum foil, and other found objects
- Masking tape
- Stapler
- “My Invention Design” handout
- Pencil

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