

Activity	Home-made rain stick		
Key:	Due the various abilities of our children we have graded some of the activities into different levels. Your child may access different levels depending on the activity as well as their ability.	Contact details:	schools@cdssgroup.org.uk
Seeds		All Education Advocates access this email. Sarah Larkin (Cheshire West) Becky Harris (Cheshire West) Yvonne Edwardson (Cheshire East)	
Saplings			
Trees			

Brief description of Activity

Children love to make noise.... I mean music! 😊 So why not try making a home-made instrument like this rain stick whilst working on fine motor skills. Let your children be creative decorating them with whatever you have available.



Resources needed

You will need

- A sturdy cardboard tube, such as cardboard tube from the middle of a roll of tin foil.
- Beans, rice, or other small material to go inside the rainstick.
- Paint, felt tips, collage material
- Thick paper
- Rubber bands
- String
- Scissors
- Pipe cleaners (optional)

Activity – Seeds and Saplings

Method

- Spend time painting and decorating your cardboard tube and allow to dry.
- Draw around a round object (like a tin can) twice and cut out the circles.
- Decorate your circles and snip around the edges to make a fringe effect if you want to.
- Attach one of the circles to the end of your cardboard tube using rubber bands.
- Fill your rain stick with your rice or beans. (If you are using pipe cleaners twist them into a spiral around a pencil and put that in first followed by your rice or beans).
- Place the second paper circle on the other end of the rain stick and secure with rubber bands.

Singing nursery rhymes and songs are important as;

- Children learn new words.
- Develop their non-verbal communications skills.
- Learn early maths skills.
- Children understand how words are formed.
- Enables children to copy actions.
- It boasts children language communication and literacy skills.
- Many nursery rhymes are also repetitive which can support the development of memory and kickstart the practice of listening and speaking.



Here are some rain themed songs you can sing with your rainmaker.

Rain, rain go away,
 Daddy/mummy/brother etc wants to play,
 Rain, rain go away,
 come again another day.

Doctor Foster went to Gloucester in a shower of rain,
 he stepped in a puddle right up to his middle and never went there again!

I here thunder, I hear thunder,
 hark don't you? Hark don't you?
 Pitter patter rain drops, pitter patter raindrops.

I'm wet through, I'm wet through!

I see blue skies, I see blue skies,
 Way up high, way up high
 Hurry up the sunshine, hurry up the
 sunshine
 I'll soon dry, I'll soon dry!



Its raining, its pouring,
 the old man is snoring,
 he went to bed and bumped his head
 and he couldn't get up in the morning.

Music to listen to

"In The Rain" by John Luther Adams. This piece of music sounds like drops of rain.

<https://youtu.be/tpuZ654e6Pc>

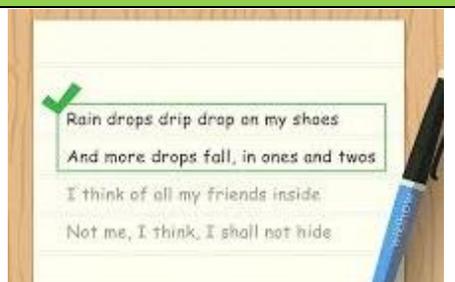
"Gardens in the Rain" by Debussy. This piece of music is played on the piano and sounds like rain falling very fast.

<https://youtu.be/AHDm-69mLO0>

Activity – Trees

Listen to the pieces of music

Use the attached rain word mat and acrostic poem template to help your child write a poem.



Attachments

Rain acrostic poem template
 Rain word mat

Cheshire Downs Syndrome Support Group

Registered Charity Number 1146127.

Website address: www.cheshiredownssyndrome.com

Phone number: 07518 590300

Support us at : www.justgiving.com/cheshiredownssyndrome/raisemoney