



Making Musical Instruments Lessons

Websites

[Hunkin's Experiments – Sound Experiments](http://www.hunkinsexperiments.com/themes/themes_sound.htm)

Lists experiments for resonance, more resonance, music, noise, and paper noise. Kid-friendly interface with direction in a cartoon format. Reading level most likely too high for 2nd grade, but a fun site. Other non-sound science experiments available here.
(http://www.hunkinsexperiments.com/themes/themes_sound.htm)

[Science of Sound: Hands on Activities](http://www.smm.org/sound/activity/handson.htm)

This Science Museum of Minnesota site has a list of hands on activities and brief explanations of the related sound principles. Not all activities may be appropriate for 2nd grade children.
(<http://www.smm.org/sound/activity/handson.htm>)

[The Saturday Scientist – Sound Experiments](http://www.west.net/~science/sound.htm)

A list of experiments for anyone to try that illustrate the principles behind the science of sound. The site has some background information, recommended primarily for teachers or interested adults.
(<http://www.west.net/~science/sound.htm>)

[The Science of Sound – Hands on Technology](http://www.galaxy.net/~k12/sound/#exper)

This is a series of experiments about sound and its application to animals, musical instruments and communications. This unit was designed for use in the second grade. Good site for teachers that just need more sound experiments for this age group.
(<http://www.galaxy.net/~k12/sound/#exper>)

[The Unmuseum – Experiment with Sound](http://unmuseum.mus.pa.us/exsound.htm)

A single experiment that demonstrates sound as vibration. Easy to read, but probably more for older kids and adults.
(<http://unmuseum.mus.pa.us/exsound.htm>)



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Books

Make Your Own Musical Instruments (Do It Yourself Books)

By Margaret McLean; illustrated by Ken Stott. (1988, Lerner Publications Company)

Includes detailed instructions for building a variety of musical instruments ranging from simple to complicated.

Making Musical Instruments (An Early Craft Book)

By Rebecca Anders; illustrated by George Overlie. (1975, Lerner Publications Company)

Includes instructions for making percussion, wind, and string instruments from easy-to-find materials.

Making Musical Things: Improvised Instruments

Written and illustrated by Ann Wiseman. (1984, Atheneum)

Includes instructions for constructing and playing a variety of instruments made from basic materials. Instruments range from the simple (playing body parts and kitchen utensils) to the complicated (building zithers from wood).

Musical Instruments (World Crafts)

By Meryl Doney. (1996, Franklin Watts)

Provides step-by-step instructions and excellent illustrations for making a variety of musical instruments from around the world. Also gives background information, including geographical region, about each instrument or type of instrument.

The Science Book of Sound

By Neil Ardley. (1991, Harcourt)

Includes easy-to-follow instructions (thanks to large photos accompanying many steps) for a variety of homemade instruments and sound-related experiments.



CDs and DVDs

A Prokofiev Fantasy with Peter and the Wolf

Deutsche Grammophon, 2007

Introduces young people to the orchestra by using musical instruments to tell an adventure story. There are also many other good recordings and videos of Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf.

Tubby the Tuba

East West Entertainment

An animated classic story about a brave little tuba who leaves the Great Orchestra and sets out to find a melody all his own. This story teaches children about musical instruments, as well as about being unique.

Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra/Gloriana Courtly Dances/Peter and the Wolf

Telarc, 1990.

Benjamin Britten and Sergei Prokofiev, composers.

Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* includes 13 variations on a single musical theme, each featuring a different instrument or family of instruments and different musical elements. Excellent introduction to the instruments that make up an orchestra. There are many other good recordings of this piece, as well as of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*.