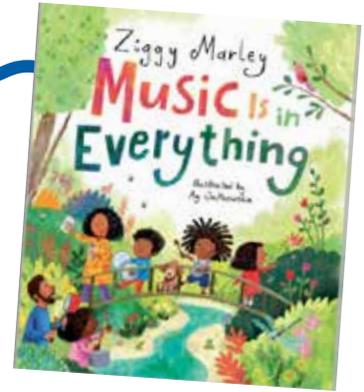




Finding Music Everywhere Family Guide

• CREATIVITY CONNECTS US



This guide helps families **PREPARE** for the Crayola Creativity Week theme *Finding Music Everywhere*. Print copies of the Thinking Sheets *Percussion Patterns* and *Nature Sings* or review this guide and provide children with plain paper for the activities. Gather art supplies including a variety of colors of crayons, markers, and colored pencils.

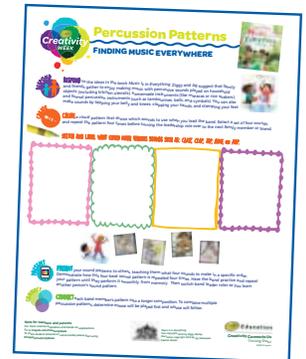
In their book *Music Is in Everything*, author Ziggy Marley and illustrator Ag Jatkowska encourage families to celebrate the sounds around them by creating rhythmic percussion patterns and pausing to listen to nature's amazing array of sounds.

- Children will:**
- observe the sounds nature provides as birds chirp, rain falls, thunder claps, and more--just listen,
 - make music with their feet, hands, tummy, and kitchen utensils,
 - create visual art based on musical patterns, and
 - enjoy making and listening to music with family and friends!



Using the *Percussion Patterns* Thinking Sheet, have children **RESPOND** to the suggestion that family and friends gather to form a band and enjoy making percussive sounds together. Experiment with the different sounds that can be made when using household objects, homemade instruments, and their bodies.

If those who gathered are not familiar with Reggae music, introduce them to this genre and encourage them to use one of the percussion sounds to keep the beat.



CREATE a band made up of family members and friends. Each band member will create a visual pattern that enables them to lead the group in an original percussion composition. Help children decide which percussion sounds they will use when they lead the band. Each person will select a set of four percussion sounds that can be made with available materials and repeat the pattern four times for a richly repetitive musical phrase.

The visual guide each person draws will help them teach others how to follow the percussion pattern they developed. Some of the sounds can be played as solos while others may be played together.



PRESENT each person's sound pattern. Help children teach their percussion pattern to others, focusing on the four sounds that will be made in a specific order. Each person will demonstrate how their four-beat sound pattern is repeated four times. Have the band practice and repeat each pattern until they perform it smoothly, from memory. Then switch band leader roles so you learn another person's sound pattern.

It can help young children feel like band leaders if they stand on a step stool or wear a special leader's costume that they can then share with the next leader.



CONNECT each band member's pattern into one full band composition. Enjoy experimenting with the various ways percussion patterns can be combined, revised, and performed. Have fun as your band arranges and rearranges the order of who leads and who follows, as well as making new sound combinations and visual instructions.



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Music Is in Everything
Text copyright 2022 by Ziggy Marley
Illustration copyright 2022 by Ag Jatkowska
Akashic Books



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Using the *Nature Sings* Thinking Sheet, have children **RESPOND** to natural sounds of the ocean, rivers, rain, trees and wind, singing birds, and buzzing bees.

Take children on a real or imaginary walk outdoors, helping them observe the sights and sounds of nature. Pause periodically to give them time to listen to and write notes describing what they hear.



Children will **CREATE** soundscapes by adding images of what makes natural sounds, thinking about the animate and inanimate natural objects they hear outdoors. Ask them where they would find a bird's nest and where they might hear splashing fish, buzzing bees, and the sounds made by the wind swaying the trees. There are no wrong ways for children to complete their soundscape scenes. Encourage them to draw on their science knowledge, what they have personally observed in nature, and a big dose of imagination and humor to create the soundscape scenes. Their art does not have to be fact-based and it can include playful ideas that flip reality.



CONNECT the sounds of nature to creative movement activities. Help children improvise a nature dance that demonstrates the sounds they hear. Encourage them to use their torso, arms, legs, neck, and hands to represent the flow of wind and rain and the sounds of creatures they heard as they listened to nature's songs.



Each family member will **PRESENT** their soundscape and nature dance. After the solo performances, encourage them to choreograph a combined nature dance that blends their ideas.



Ask family members how they would like to extend the music making and improv dance experiences next time. Consider ways your family could make homemade percussion instruments or include strings and wind instruments. How might using colorful scarves during the improv dance performance help reinforce the flowing aspects of nature singing? Plan a follow-up experience that builds upon the ways creativity was expressed today.

Note for teachers and parents:

For more creative inspiration and hands-on explorations go to Crayola.com/CreativityWeek
To share student artwork on social media please post using #CrayolaCreativityWeek
We can't wait to see what they create.



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