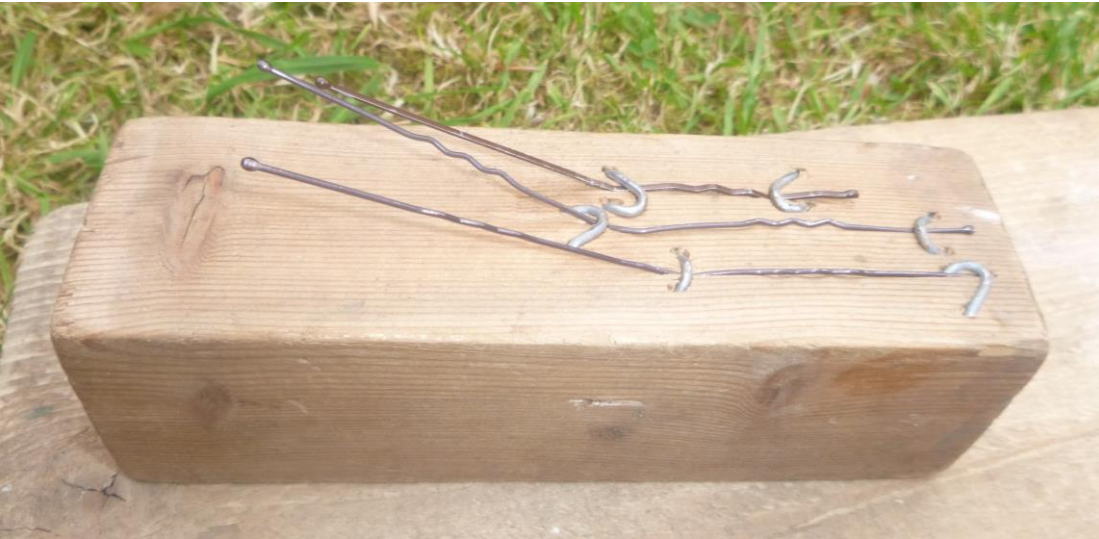


Thumb Piano



The thumb piano is an African instrument called an Mbira or Kalimba

This is a genuine African Mbira.



Make your own using a wooden block, some hair grips or hair pins and either a staple gun or a hammer and netting staples.

1. Unfold the pins.
2. Fix one end firmly to the wooden block.
3. Fix firmly in a second place. Make each pin a different length to give different sounds. If the pin is not fixed firmly it will buzz instead of vibrating with a clear sound.
4. Decorate your home-made Mbira.
5. Have fun playing quiet, gentle tunes. Try playing a single repeated note with your left thumb and a tune with your right.

Hair grips or pins are great to use as their ends are smooth. Take care with the hammer and staples or the staple gun!!

