



Rain Sticks

Experiment with making the sounds of the Sea.

What you need:

- Empty cardboard boxes, tubes etc. Long, thin ones seem to work best.
- 2 pieces of foil twice as long as your box
- Sellotape, elastic bands etc to join
- Seeds, lentils, tiny sticks, leaves etc to put in your rain stick (we used out of date rice)
- You may want to decorate with pens, paint or crayons.

How to make your rain stick:

- Scrunch the foil to make a long worm shape and then coil it around a stick to make a spiral.
- Put the foil spiral in the box or tube. If it is a tube you will need to put a circle of paper over the end with an elastic band to close it in.
- Put seeds or sticks inside and seal the ends of your box so the seeds don't fall out.
- Gently tip your rain stick from side to side and see what sound it makes.





Sounds of the Sea

You could try using other containers:

- An old sock or a pair of tights
- A plastic bottle – we used twigs and rice in ours. (Better for the environment if you can avoid plastics!)
- We also found we could make some watery sounds by just sprinkling seed or stones onto foil.

Development

- How many different sea sounds can you make? How could you make the sound of the sea on a summer's day? On a stormy day? How might it sound different at different times?
- We painted our rain stick box black and then decorated it with a sea pattern and words to describe some sea sounds.
- You could research rainsticks. Where did they come from and what were they used for?

Experiment

- Try making sounds with water. Splash, drop, jump in puddles, spray – be creative!
- We experimented with holding shells to our ears and listening to the sounds. We then tried different containers to see what happened. Which other containers can you hear the sea in?

