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Title: **Make an Instrument**

Find something around the house that makes a good sound when you tap or shake it.

- Oatmeal/coffee tubs or other similar containers
- Plastic bottles with lids - put dried beans or rice inside to make a shaker
- Two paper plates - put them together, bottom sides out, poke holes in the edges and tie the plates together with yarn (get child to help as much as possible). Add bells, buttons, or other jingley things to the strings
- Have child decorate the instrument either directly on the instrument or on a piece of paper that you can tape to the instrument. Use yarn, stickers, paint, crayons, pipe cleaners, buttons, etc. to decorate
- Be creative and have fun!
- Send us a picture of your creation



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Title: **Rhythmic Reading**

- Find a rhyming book, if you don't have one at home, you can check out a digital copy from the library
- Gather any instruments you've made or other instruments you have in the house
- Tap a steady beat on the instrument while you read the rhyming book in time with the rhythm. This takes a little practice, feel free to read the same page multiple times. You can also type 'metronome' into a google search and right at the top is a metronome that you can adjust to go faster or slower, press play and use that as the steady beat.
- The rhythm helps emphasize the rhyming words which helps children with language development. It also helps focus their attention and gives them a motor task (playing the instrument) while they listen
- Don't worry if your child is not playing on the beat
- After you get the hang of it, stop right before the second rhyming word and see if your child will fill in the word. If you have a recordable device, record the word and have the child hit stop when you stop reading. There is an app called 'Play Button' that you can use also.
- Attached is a PDF with some of the rhyming words from 'One Fish, Two Fish' with pictures. You can show your child two pictures and have them point to or look at the word they think comes next.
- If you have a real or tactile object that represents the rhyming word, use that!
- If you have GarageBand on your phone or tablet, you can help your child create and record a rhythm on there and then record your voices reading the rhythm.