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How to Make a Xylophone from Glasses

You will need…

- Somebody to help you – very important!
- Some drinking glasses or mugs. See how many different sizes you can find. Make sure that you ask for help to choose the glasses.
- Some teaspoons.
- Optional: water!

Step One:

Tap the side of each of your glasses with your teaspoons and listen to which glasses make a higher or a lower sound. With your helper's help, see if you can line the glasses in order from the lowest sound on one side to the highest sound on the other side. I discovered that it's not ***always*** the biggest glass that makes the lowest sound…

Step Two:

Try playing some games with your glassy xylophone: get your helper to close their eyes whilst you tap one of the glasses and see if they can guess which one you played. If this is too easy, try playing 2 or 3 glasses one after the other for them to guess.

You can also change whether the glasses have a low or a high sound by pouring water in them. Add a little bit at a time and see how it changes the sound. Try making up your own tunes by yourself or with somebody else and record yourself playing them! Try also playing two glasses at a time and see which pairs make a really nice sound together.

For some extra inspiration, here's Fin Draper playing on drinking glasses with one hand, a keyboard with his other hand, and a drum stick taped to his foot:

https://youtu.be/s-cyQj6aRrk