

Music in a Glass - Grades 4 & Up



How It Works:

This activity teaches pitch and the difference between high and low notes. Have your student find 5-8 glasses (you can use metal bowls of different sizes too). Fill each glass (or bowl) with water: each glass will have progressively more water in it than the last one. For instance, glass one may only have $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of water, glass two will have 1 inch, glass three 1.5 inches, etc., until the last glass is almost full to the top.

The less water a glass contains the higher the pitch or note will be. The glasses with more water will have lower pitches or notes. Have your student use a chopstick or spoon to tap lightly on each glass to sound the different pitches. You can arrange the glasses in order from low to high, high to low and/or in random order. Once your student has tapped on each glass for a bit, make the activity more challenging and ask them to tap them in order of lowest to highest and then highest to lowest. You can keep it interesting by asking them to make up their own melodies.

What You'll Need:

5-8 glasses or bowls of various sizes

Water

Chopsticks or other items to tap the glasses/bowls

