

#### Sound Decisions: Moving Music Outdoors!

By the end of this webinar you will have an understanding of...

- Benefits of having music outdoors
- The wide variety of ways to create music spaces outdoors
- How to plan for your own "sound garden"
- Materials needed and ways to obtain them
- Guiding questions to extend children's thinking while creating unstructured music

### Think of the many benefits of moving music outdoors!

- Freedom to make loud sounds
- Encourages gross motor activity, dance and exploration
- Can be relatively low-cost
- Another way of building community
- Immediate success: No "right" way to build it or play it!
- It's all about exploration!





# Elements of a Music Wall

- "Wall" used wooden pallet, fence, chain link fencing, easel, giant wooden spool...
- Space
- Storage
- Metal pans/pots, other items as instruments
- Metal mallets/strikers
- Instruments of other materials
- Strikers of other materials

Features: PVC pipes, metal cookie tins, pans, cans, drainer, metal buckets to hold strikers (wooden)





Features: variety of pans/pots/baking tins, lids, plastic ice cube trays, washboard, toy glockenspiel, rolling pin



Pentatonic "FlipFlopOPhone Tree"

Features:

Freestanding 6-tone PVC pipe

Attached flip flop striker

Alternate strikers: Fly swatters covered with Fun Foam

By RecycledSupersonic, Etsy

Tip:

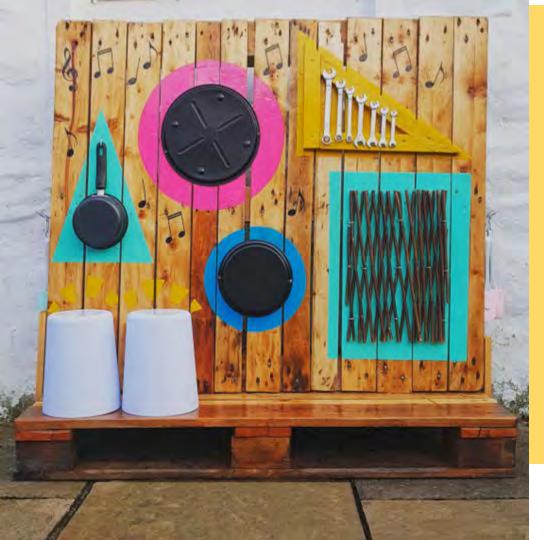
# It's OK to START SMALL!

Unless you are skilled at construction or have volunteers who are handy.



#### Features: Existing fence, pots/pans, colander, tambourine, bells





- This setup is built from used wooden pallets and has a builtin "stage"!
- Paint highlights and focuses attention on simple layout.
- Metal gate also pivots & extends away from wall for different sounds.
- Plastic trash cans for drums
- Sealed with Spar (boat) varnish

https://www.craftalavista.com/family-fun-ideas/tutorialsother-helpful-links/27-diy-pallet-music-wall-for-kids Nicole Evry





Features: Bell Carousel, 2 sizes of pipe "organ", metal and bamboo chimes, xylophones, a variety of strikers, and varnished wood slices for seating/elevation



#### Features:

- Bottle cap chimes
- suspended water bottle shakers
- bamboo chime
- Pans
- oven grate
- suspended glock bells

https://project.theownerbuildernetwork.co/2017/02/03/outdoor-music-wall/



Features: Lettering, pot lids, gong, cymbal, metal grate, drying rack, built-in mallet/striker, pipe "organ"

Courtesy Stefanie Scott. Brooklyn Park, MN Nature PS and Community Center

## Things to Consider

What space do you have? Ground cover?

**Construction or Simple DIY?** 

What materials will you need?

Do you have items already on hand you could use?

Permanent or temporary?

How will you attach the items to the structure?

How will you maintain safety?

Where/how will you store materials when not in use? (and off-season?)



### Hooks, Hangers and other gadgets for affixing



Over-the-door hooks

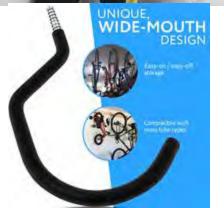


Expandable hook rack



Steel rod hangers

And so many more options!



Wide Bike Hooks

#### **Becker's Nature Sounds Set**



#### **Outdoor Low Play Table**



#### **Outdoor Easel**







**Outdoor Balancing Sound Bar** 

**Becker's Outdoor Music Kit** 

### **Balance Boards**



**Outdoor Balance Boards** 









- ☐ Thrift Shops
- ☐ Yard Sales
- □ Library Sales
- □ Dollar stores
- □ Discount stores
- □ Local donors/families
- □ Garages
- □ Basements

Where might you find supplies?

- ☐ Kitchens, restaurants (disposing of used tools)
- ☐ Restaurant supply store
- Businesses that use pallets
- □ Hardware stores
- Durable inside instruments can travel outdoors
- □ DIY simple instruments
- ☐ Upright piano (often free!) newspaper
- ☐ Neighbors, friends, colleagues, family

# GOOD VIBES ONLY

## What is your intention for this exploration?

"Musicking" - open-ended music and sound exploration simply for the sake of exploring the relationships between action and reaction

- Builds on social nature of learning
- Fosters cultural exchange
  - Encourages early composition
- Facilitates expressive dance/movement
- Exploring what elements & sounds "make music" - what action is needed?



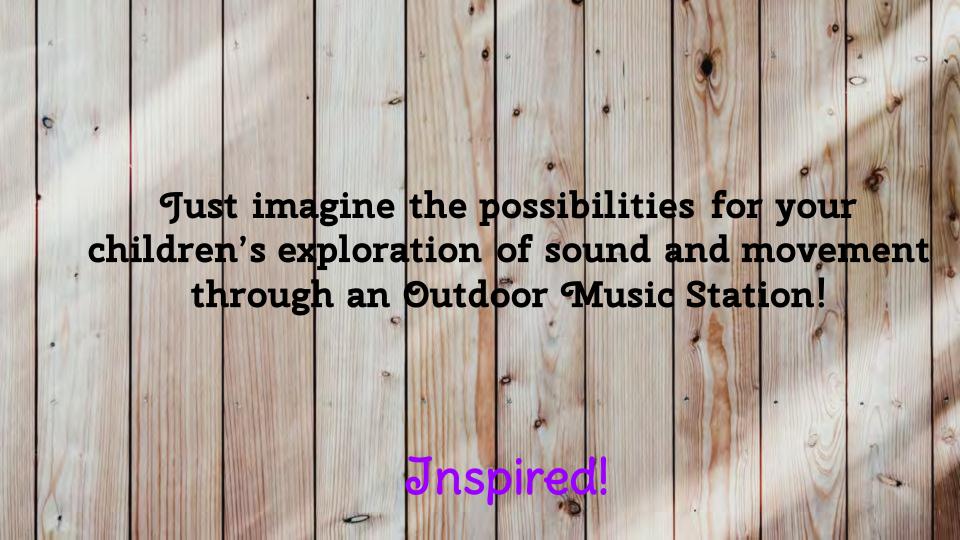
### **Guiding Questions**

Begin with closed-ended questions

- ?
- Then ask an open-ended question to extend thinking
- If a child gives an unexpected response ask for more information
- Provide ample wait-time for answers to complex questions



\*There are no right/wrong answers!\*



# Thank you for joining me today! Let's connect!

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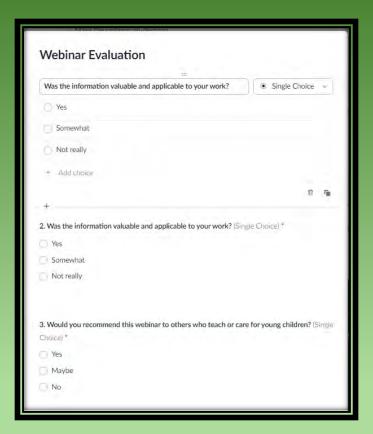
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## More Resources . . .

www.shopbecker.com/Learning-Centers-Music---AV/
www.shopbecker.com/everyone-sings

ShopBecker.com



## Upcoming Webinars





#### **AUGUST 18**

 Designing Classroom Layouts: A Virtual Tool Tutorial

#### SEPTEMBER 29

Celebrate Who You Are with Todd Parr