

## DIY MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Let's play! Learn how to make a guitar and a shaker with DCPL librarians Claire and Charisma.

FOR AGES 4-8



### Materials for the guitar:

- \* Paper towel roll
- \* Rectangular tissue box
- \* Tape
- \* 3-4 rubber bands
- \* Scissors

### Optional:

- \* Use a tissue box with a pattern or another kind of design.
- \* Decorate your paper towel roll before attaching.

### Steps:

- \* **Cut** 2 slits (roughly 1 inch) on one end of the paper towel roll.
- \* **Fold** and flatten the slits.
- \* **Tape** the slits onto one end of the tissue box. This is your fingerboard!
- \* **Wrap** each rubber band, lengthwise, around the tissue box.
- \* Strum away!

### Tips:

- \* You can also cut a hole in one end of the tissue box and insert the paper towel roll that way.
- \* Use different sizes of rubber bands. What do thicker rubber bands sound like when you strum them? What about thinner bands?

### Materials for the shaker:

- \* Empty toilet paper roll
- \* Paper (anything that folds easily)
- \* 2 rubber bands
- \* Scissors
- \* A handful of items small enough to fit inside the toilet paper roll

### Optional:

- \* Markers, colored pencils, crayons, paints, stickers

### Steps:

- \* **Decorate** the toilet paper roll: draw on it, paint on it, or cover it with gift wrap! Get creative!
- \* Use a piece of paper to **cover** one end.
- \* Use a rubber band, tape, or glue to **make sure the paper stays on**.
- \* **Cut** off any extra paper if you like/are able.
- \* **Turn over** the roll and **put in** some of the small items that you chose.
- \* Repeat steps **#3** and **#4**.
- \* Shake it up!

**Tip:** Make more shakers and use different fillings, in different amounts. How do the shakers sound the same or different from each other?

