

CREATIVE ARTS learning springboards



Vegetable orchestra: Playing with Food

Make instruments from vegetables

Aim: Listening to the Vegetable Orchestra video may inspire your pupils to make instruments from vegetables that they have grown at school or brought in from home.

Pupils inspired by the video could devise their own orchestra from a range of vegetables and improvise, recreate or reimagine a piece of music.

There are several videos on You Tube showing performances from pupils using a wide range of instruments they've made - freshly made before every performance! The musicians also make a soup during the building phase of the musical instruments, with the parts of the vegetables that are not used.

Some examples include:

- Red pepper trumpet
- Sliced aubergine percussion
- Pumpkin drums with carrot drumsticks
- Carrot flutes
- Bean slides
- Crinkly onion skins (sounds like rain)
- Celery guitar



Consider the density and texture of the vegetables, whether they are hollow, can be peeled for a different sound and how they might be 'played'.

Create the instruments, testing different approaches to find the most pleasing sounds, then devise a sound scape/piece of music. This could include solo performances to showcase each instrument.

Resources:

Source as wide a variety of vegetables as possible, such as peppers, carrots, pumpkins, beans, celery.

Key vocabulary:

Percussion
Wind instrument
Timbre
Tone
Dynamics
Crescendo
Diminuendo
Structure
Solo
Duet
Trio
Rhythm

Success criteria:

- ✓ I can listen to, appreciate and describe what I like about the Vegetable Orchestra performances
- ✓ I can follow instructions to make and tune a musical instrument using a vegetable
- ✓ I can play a solo and group piece of music of my own compilation on my vegetable
- ✓ I can follow a recipe to make a soup out of vegetable peelings

Vegetable orchestra

