**Make an Instrument!**

**Due Date: Monday, November 12th**

**Introduction**

*As we study sound, we will learn about the many reasons sound is an important part of our lives. One of these reasons is because sound allows us to enjoy listening to and playing music. All musical instruments use vibrations to create sound. Your job is to make your own musical instrument from materials you have at home and share your instrument with the class. During your presentation, you will explain how your instrument creates sound, how you can change the pitch of your instrument, and how you can change the volume of your instrument.*

**Getting Started**

* Search the Internet to find instructions for making your own instrument from materials you have at home. If you do not have the Internet at home, ask your teacher to help you find time at school to print the directions for making an instrument. For ideas, check out the websites below or ask an adult to help you do a Google search for “homemade musical instruments”.
  + http://familycrafts.about.com/od/musicalcrafts/Musical\_Craft\_Projects.htm
  + http://www.dsokids.com/athome/makeinstrument.aspx
  + http://www.makingfriends.com/musical\_instruments.htm
  + http://library.thinkquest.org/04apr/00275/create.htm
* Choose an instrument that you find interesting. ***(You may NOT make a rubber band guitar, since we will be making these in class.)***
* Make your instrument. If you need help finding any materials, be sure to ask your teacher well before the project due date!
* Once your instrument is done, practice playing it. Think about how the instrument produces sound. Where are the vibrations coming from? Experiment to find out how to change the pitch and volume.
* Write a description of your instrument.
  + Your writing must be at least one paragraph long
  + Describe your instrument. What is it called?
  + Tell how you play your instrument.
  + Describe how your instrument produces the vibrations needed to create sound.
  + Describe how you can change the pitch of the sound coming from your instrument.
  + Describe how you can change the volume of the sound coming from your instrument.
* Practice presenting your project – we will be sharing these in class!
  + Make eye contact
  + Speak in a loud, clear voice
  + Engage your audience!

**Rubric**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Does Not Meet**  0 – 2 points | **Approaching**  3 points | **Meets**  4 points | **Exceeds**  5 points |
| **Instrument** | Student did not make an instrument | Student attempted to make an instrument, but it does not produce sound | Instrument produces sound | Instrument produces sound and it is clear that student went above and beyond to make instrument stand out |
| **Content of Paragraph** | No paragraph is written | Student wrote a paragraph, but did not fulfill all content requirements | Paragraph describes the instrument, tells how it produces sound, and explains how to change the pitch and volume of the instrument | Paragraph describes the instrument, tells how it produces sound, and explains how to change the pitch and volume of the instrument;  Paragraph includes an explanation of pitch and volume, including frequency and amplitude |
| **Quality of Paragraph** | No paragraph is written or paragraph is incomplete | Student wrote a paragraph, but work is not edited and sentences are incomplete | Paragraph shows evidence of editing and all sentences are complete | Paragraph is edited, all sentences are complete, and student shows attempt to engage the audience |
| **Neatness** | The project was not done or had very little completed | Most of the project and writing were neat, but some areas could have used more effort | The project and writing are neat and legible | The student went above and beyond to make the project and writing stand out |
| **Class Presentation** | The student did not present the project | The student presented the project, but was not prepared | The student used a strong speaking voice and made eye contact  The student demonstrated how the instrument produces sound | The student used a strong speaking voice, made eye contact, and made the presentation engaging;  The student demonstrated how the instrument produces sound and how to change the pitch and volume |
|  |  |  | **Total** |  |