



MUSEUM FROM HOME

Art Explorers' Story Hour | November 2020

Giving Thanks

Look!

What is going on in this picture?

What do you see that makes you say that?

What more can you find?

Learn!

What are you thankful for?

How do you show you are thankful?

Do you sing?

In this picture, you can see a group of people beating on a large drum. You can see the person on the right is singing; their mouth is open and cupped to make their voice louder. Do you think this group of people is thankful for each other?

James Henry Sharp is the artist who made this painting. He wanted to show people celebrating with music. Music is important to communities all over the world.

Put your hand on your chest. Feel the beating of your heart.

What does it make you think of? Does it remind you of a drum?

What songs do you sing?



Joseph Henry Sharp, *The Gift Dance Drummers*, 1916, Oil on canvas, 29 1/2 × 39 1/2 in. Rockwell Foundation. 78.61 F.

Do!

Let's have some fun making an instrument (or two!) that you can use to play along while you sing!

Shaker Rattle

Supplies:

- Plastic bottle with lid, label removed, cleaned and dried
- Dried goods such as rice, lentils, beans, peas or anything small that will make a nice sound when shaken
- Optional: ribbons to tie on for color /stickers to decorate

Instructions:

- Make sure your bottle is completely dry
- Add about ¼ cup of dried goods, beads or other items you select. Use just one type, or mix them up!
- Put the lid on and shake your bottle. Try adding more or less materials, and shake it to hear how it sounds.
- When you find the sound you like, decorate your bottle using stickers or by tying ribbons around the neck. What other ways can you decorate your bottle?



Drum of Thanks

Supplies:

- Coffee can, oatmeal container, or other container with a lid, cleaned and dried. (If container is metal, please make sure the edges are not sharp.)
- Colored or white paper
- Glue or tape
- Stickers, finger paints, crayons, magic markers, or colored pencils for decorating



Instructions:

- Make sure your container is clean, dry and free from sharp edges.
- Measure your paper to fit the container and cut to size.
- Before you cover the container with the paper, decorate your paper with stickers, paints, crayons, etc. While you do, talk about what you are thankful for with your family or friends.
- Then, with the lid off, wrap your paper around the container. Glue or tape to seal.
- Put the lid on.
- Make some sounds on your new instrument! What sounds do you like?

What are you thankful for? Sing a song and make some joyful sounds with your drum or rattle to show your thanks.

