



Learning musical instruments

A great way to introduce instruments to young children and teach an important musical concept like rhythm is to use everyday objects found in the home and treat it like a percussive instrument.



Home activities to do with your Toddler

Week 38: May 18 – May 22

- Science experiment: Water glass xylophone.
- Gross motor activities: Simon says & Freeze dance movement.
- Musical instrument sensory play.
- Musical instrument crafts.

Special activities and STEAM



- Sing simple songs, and say nursery rhymes. This helps your child learn the rhythm of speech.

Language



- An easy way to teach colors to toddlers is to work with whatever you have around the house and have kids sort them. You can grab different fruits and veggies, soft balls and animals, or even supplies from your craft box like pom poms, popsicle sticks and crayons.

Cognitive



- Establish daily routines. Your child will feel confident and secure. They will learn that events can happen in an organized way. Create routines that are predictable but flexible.

Social-emotional



- Let your toddler explore their creative side with some Sensory Drawing. Inspire them to create patterns, portraits, letters and whatever they fancy – the possibilities are endless!

Fine motor



- As a toddler, it is important that your child keep exercising these muscles to enable them to run, jump, throw, climb, etc. You can help your child by providing them with a large safe area indoors or out, in which they can move about freely.

Gross motor



Morning Meeting

- Discovering Venezuela.
Sing and move: "Que bonita bandera" "What a beautiful flag of Venezuela"

PLAY SONG



- > Learn about the flag of Venezuela!
(Go to page 7 to find the worksheet)
- > Learn some basic Spanish words with your child and make an effort to use them at the rest of this week:

Please — por favor
Thank you — gracias
Yes — sí

No — no (this was the easiest one)

Gross motor activity:

“Simon dice” - “Simon says”

Continue the tradition with your own kids!

Simon Says is great for all sorts of development. It helps toddlers learn to listen better and to pay close attention to what is being said.

It's also a great gross motor activity. For example,

Simon Says:

- Hop on one foot / Salta sobre un pie
- Jump as high as you can / Salta tan alto como puedas
- Do jumping jacks / Haz saltos
- Touch your toes / Tócate los dedos de los pies

You can add tons of gross motor skills into just one game!

Sensory play — Maracas

The maraca in Venezuela has been present mainly among native people. It is used to go along with the dance, as a toy among children.

This is a great opportunity for your child to learn and play through all their senses. These Rainbow Sensory Bottles are bright and cheerful and just perfect for toddlers to explore musical instruments.

Here is what you need:

- A clean and dry plastic bottle with lid.
- Rainbow coloured pom-poms
- A handful of rice.
- Rainbow coloured ribbon

Directions:

- > First get your child to put the coloured pom-poms into the bottle.
- > Then put in the rice. You could use lots of other things too like pasta, seeds, bells etc.
- > Make a hole in the lid to thread the ribbon.
- > Once you have your ribbon lengths, tape the ends together to make it easier to thread through the lid.
- > Then pop your lid on the bottle and hey presto. A visual treat to turn, twist, tip and spin and enjoy looking at all the racing and tumbling colours.



Something to consider: Think about topics that interest your toddler. If your toddler loves trains or has a favorite pet, make up a story about one of those interests. Your toddler is more likely to take part in storytelling if the story is about something that interests him. Young children often like to hear stories about themselves (the day they were born, for example).

Morning Meeting: Learning musical instruments in Spanish.

- Let's Sing and Move: La Canción de los Instrumentos | The instruments song

PLAY SONG



Guided learning: Pom-Pom Scoop and Transfer Color Sort

This pom-pom scoop & transfer color sort requires no prep and will keep your toddler busily engaged in some educational sensory play!

All you need is a pack of pom poms, one serving tray and from your kitchen.

The pom-poms provide a nice soft sensory experience while the scoop exercises fine motor practice and hand-eye coordination.



Science experiment: Water Glass Xylophone



Create your own rainbow water glass xylophone using a few simple supplies. Learn about how sound waves travel, how different pitches are produced, and have fun playing on your own homemade water glass xylophone musical instrument!

Here's what you need:

- 8 identical drinking glasses or Recycle empty glass bottles
- Water
- Measuring cups
- Food coloring
- Plastic spoon
- Wooden spoon

Directions:

- › Fill the bottles with water to gradually increasing levels and add food coloring. Next take the spoon and experiment with the water xylophone.
- › Hitting the glass on the side made one kind of sound.
- › Hitting the glass on the top with the flat side of the spoon produced another kind of sound.

Each glass sounded differently based on how much water was in the glass. The bottles with less water sounded higher in pitch than the bottles with more water in them. The reason is that the more water in the glass, the less the glass is able to vibrate and therefore it produces a lower sound.

Miércoles

Wednesday

Something to Consider: Gross motor skills are movements that help children develop large muscle control in arms, legs and the entire body.

Morning Meeting

- Let's Sing and Move: Cuando La Banda Marchando Viene / When the Marching Band Comes

PLAY SONG



Gross motor activity: Baile del movimiento / Freeze dance painting



If you haven't played freeze dance before it's a fun stop and go dance game. When the music plays you dance and when the music stops you freeze in place.

For freeze dance painting, pour paint into a frisbee for your little one to step in. Once their feet are covered in paint they can jump on the paper and dance to the music. Your child will have the opportunity to explore different colors.

PLAY SONG



Project time: Pandereta / Paper plate tambourine craft

Your kids will love to get singing and dancing with this colourful paper plate tambourine craft!

Here's what you need:

- Paper Plate
- Paint
- Ribbon
- Jingle Bells
- Cotton Balls
- Glue



Directions:

- > You can of course paint your homemade tambourine any color you like.
- > Once the paint is dry, fold your paper plate in half and use a hole punch to punch through your paper plate. Make sure both sides of the plate are lined up and punched through.
- > To make the paper plate tambourine nice and plump and soft to hold you can stuff the inside with some cotton balls.
- > Cut some short sections of ribbon and thread them through the bells and then tie them on to your tambourine craft.
- > Finish off your paper plate tambourine craft by glueing the edges of the plate together.

Jingle Jangle! Your gorgeous rainbow paper plate tambourine is now finished and ready for playing. Homemade instruments are such fun and a fantastic way to inspire musical creativity and experimentation in your kids.

Something to consider: Find a time and place likely to encourage your toddler to join in storytelling. Choose a place where you can hear each other clearly. Since toddler attention spans can be short, choose a time when there will be few distractions.

Morning Meeting

- Let's Sing and Move: Nuestro amigo Barney tiene una banda / Our friend Barney have a band

PLAY SONG



Guided learning: Lego Color Sort

Choose the colors you would like your child to sort and lay out coordinating pieces of construction paper! You can use masking tape to tape them to a table top or to the floor, and then let your kids get started!



Play the color song and learn with you child the colors in Spanish!

PLAY SONG



Project time: Palo de Lluvia / Rain stick

Traditional rain sticks are instruments made from dried cacti, thorns & pebbles. When held vertically, the falling pebbles sound similar to falling rain.

Here's what you need:

- long cardboard tube
- some toothpicks
- pieces of cardboard to seal the tube
- handful of rice or wheat or any other grains.

Directions:

- Take the cardboard tube and in a pattern pierce it with toothpicks. If the tooth picks are not strong enough make holes in the tube and insert the toothpicks. While making the holes, make sure that you don't make large but small holes.
- After inserting all the toothpicks, close one end of the tube with a cardboard piece and seal it off with glue.
- Let it dry for few hours.
- Now pour in the grains and seal the other end as well.
- Now, whenever you turn the tube upside down the grains falling down will strike the toothpicks and create a sound similar to rain.

All that's left to do is come up with your own song & dance to shake and move your rain stick to!



Morning Meeting: Identifying Musical Instruments

- Let's Sing and move: La orquesta / the orchestra

PLAY SONG



Guided learning: Oil and Water Sensory Bottles

Here's what you need:

- Bottles
- Baby Oil
- Water
- Food coloring or liquid watercolors
- Food Coloring
- Funnel



Directions:

- > Start by filling half of the bottle up with water and add a few drops of either food coloring or liquid watercolors. Give it a good swish to spread the color throughout the water.
- > In a separate bowl add your oil and food coloring. Now this part is very important. You need to make sure that this food coloring is oil based or it won't color the oil.
- > Place the funnel into your bottle and pour your oil in.
- > Then put the lid back on and securely tighten it. You can glue the lids into place to make sure there are no accidental spillages.

Art time: Shadow Sidewalk Chalk Art

Making shadow sidewalk chalk art is a fun way to get kids outside learning and flexing their creative muscles while having fun creating art outdoors.

Invite children to trace shadows and paint them for a fun outdoor shadow art STEAM activity that children will LOVE!

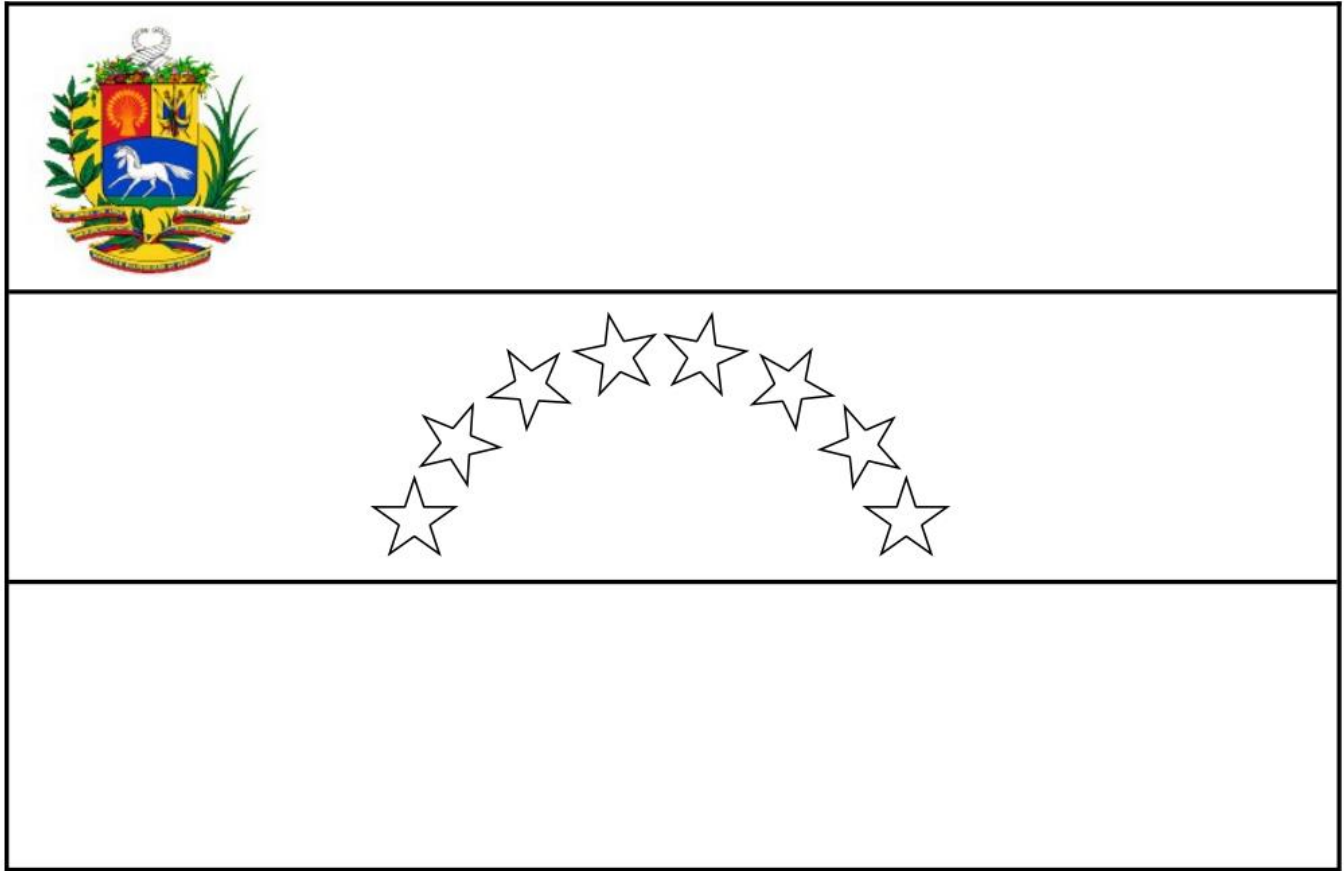


Shadow art outdoor science is a hands-on STEAM activity that will help children learn about shadow science and identify the colors.

Making the most of routines: Transitions Elephants and mice

This is a great imitation game that can be enjoyed as a family. Have fun acting out animals with your child. Invite your child to stomp their feet heavily like an elephant or walk very lightly, like a mouse, between routines, for example when it's time to wash their hands or get dressed to go outside. You could also display a picture of an elephant and a picture of a mouse on a wall and point to the corresponding animal whenever you want children to move like an elephant or a mouse.

La Bandera de Venezuela - The flag of Venezuela

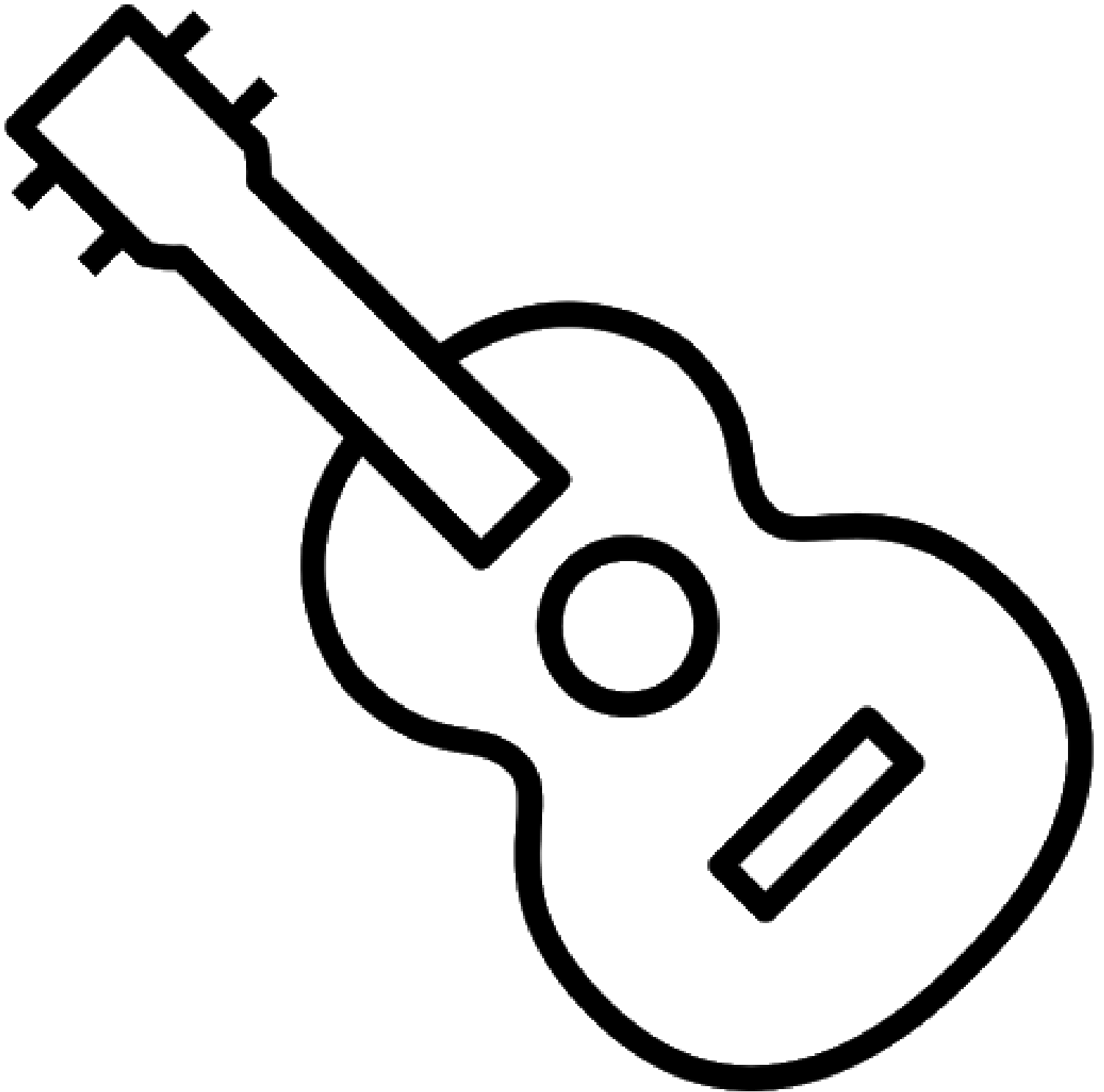


Color the flag of the Venezuela. The top band is yellow, the center band is blue, and the bottom band is red. The eight stars in the center band are white.

The national flag of Venezuela is a tri-band of three colors: yellow, blue, and red. The yellow band holds eight white stars. The coat of arms is shown in the top left corner {on the hoist side of the flag}. The flag was designed by Francisco de Miranda in 1806.

Only seven stars were added to the flag in 1836 and symbolize the seven provinces that supported Venezuela's independence. The eighth star was added in 2006 to represent Guyana. The yellow color in the flag represents the wealth of the land, the blue symbolizes the courage, and the red represents the country's independence from Spain.

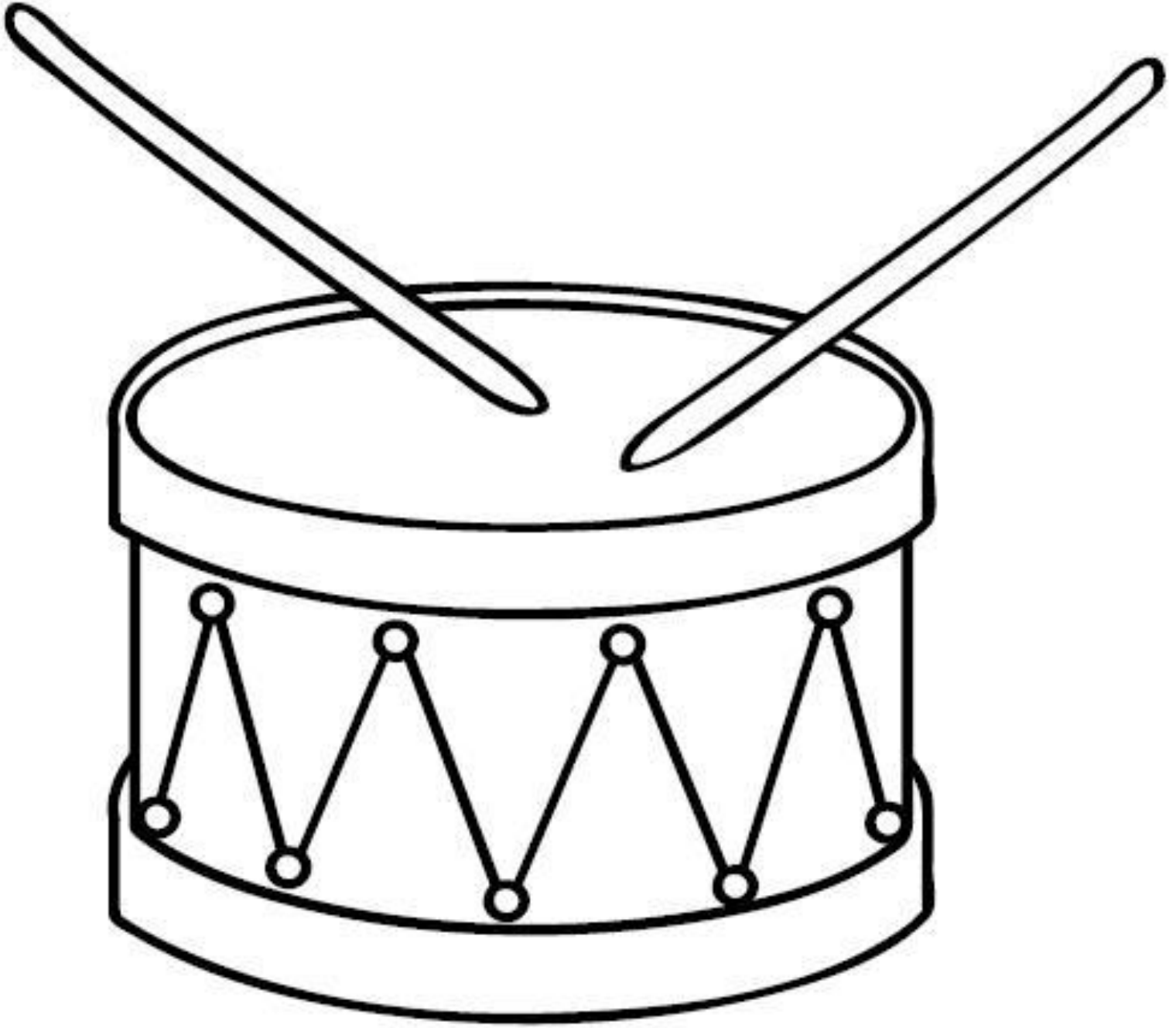
Red/Rojo



Directions: Using your fingers, paint the guitar **RED**. Use finger paint.

Instrucciones: Utilizando tus dedos pinta de color **ROJO** la guitarra. Utiliza pintura a dedo.

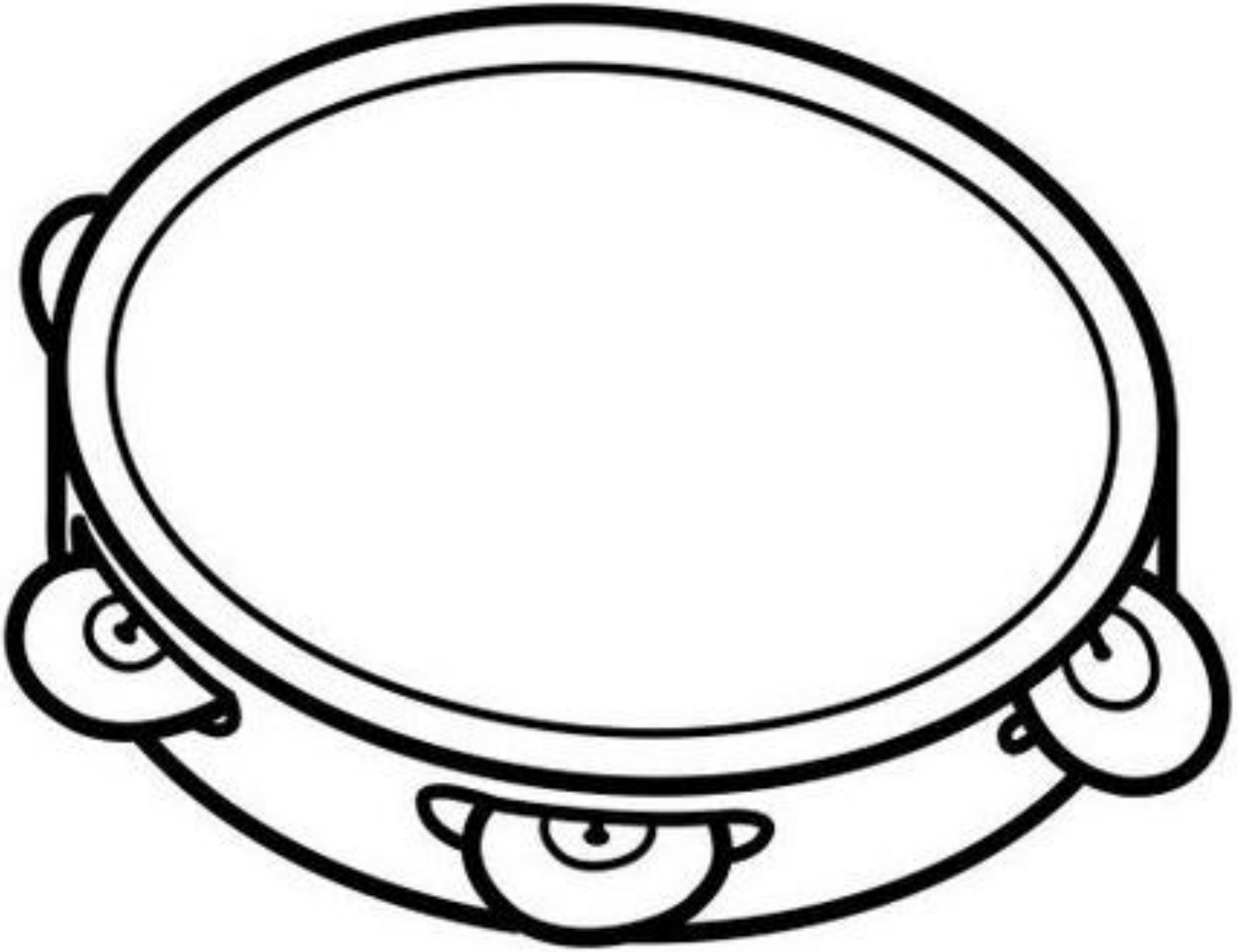
Blue / Azul



Directions: Using your fingers, paint the drum **BLUE**.

Instrucciones: Utilizando tus dedos pinta de color **AZUL** el tambor.

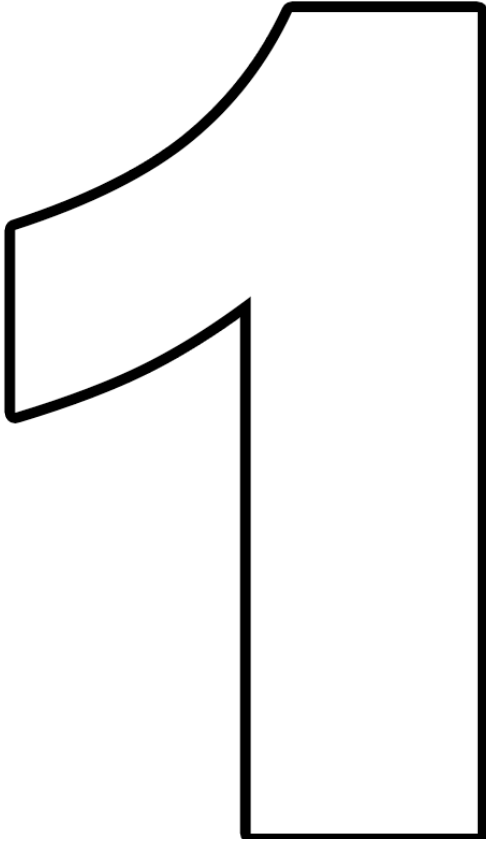
Yellow / Amarillo



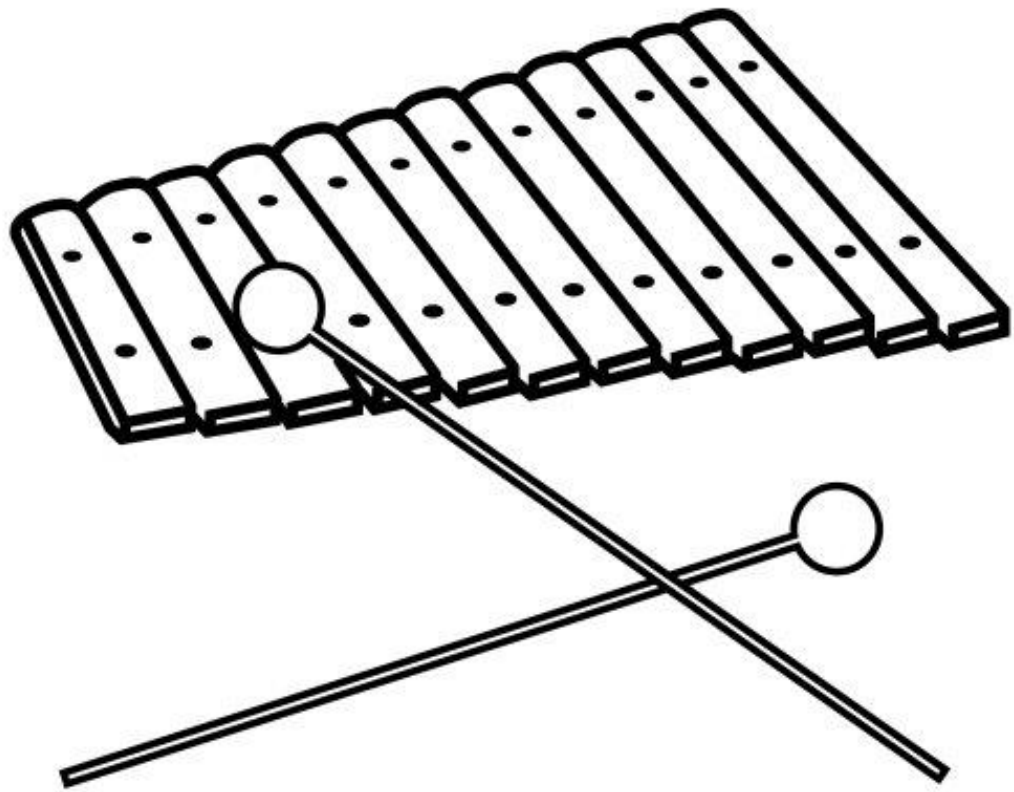
Directions: Using your fingers paint the tambourine **YELLOW**.

Instrucciones: Utilizando tus dedos pinta de color **AMARILLO** la pandereta.

One / Uno



UNO

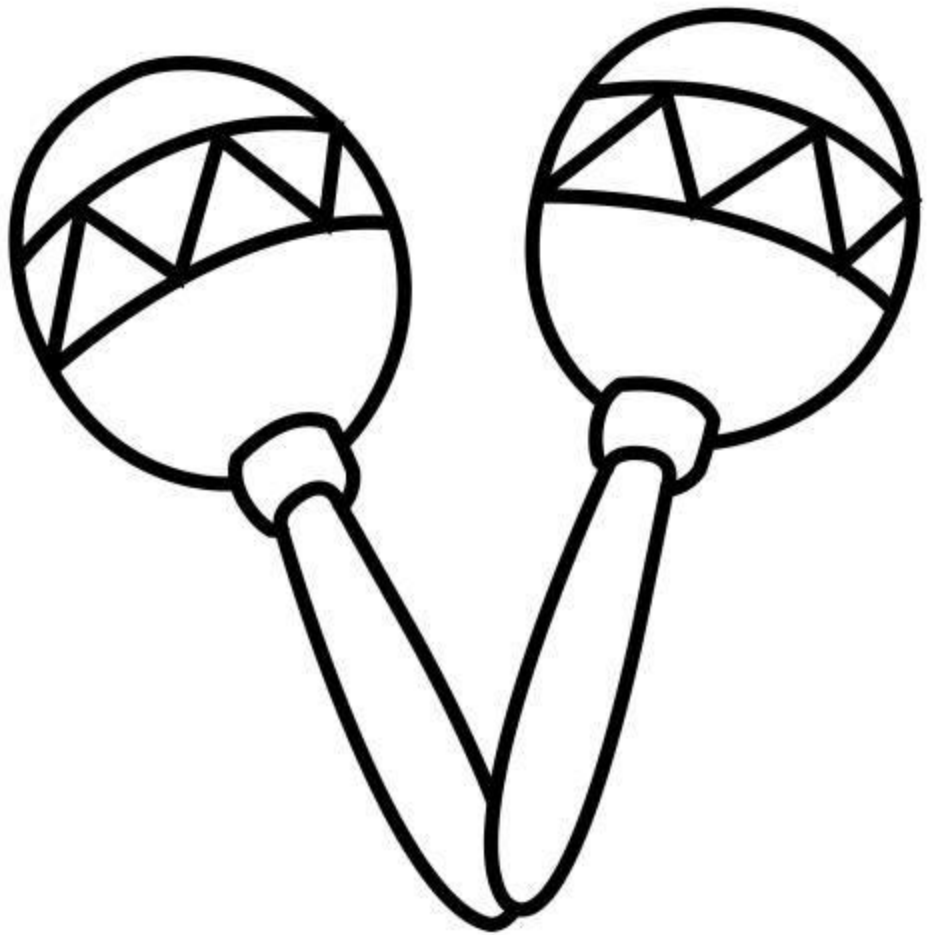


Directions: Paste paper on number 1. Color the xylophone
Instrucciones: Pega papel sobre el número 1. Colorea el xilófono.

Two/Dos



DOS



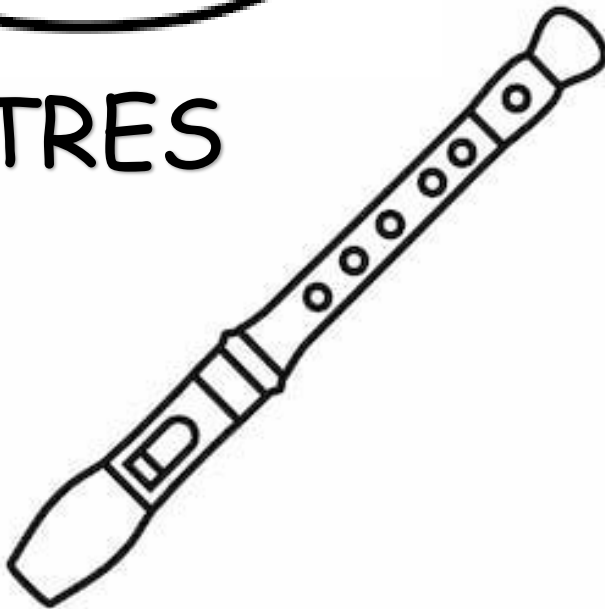
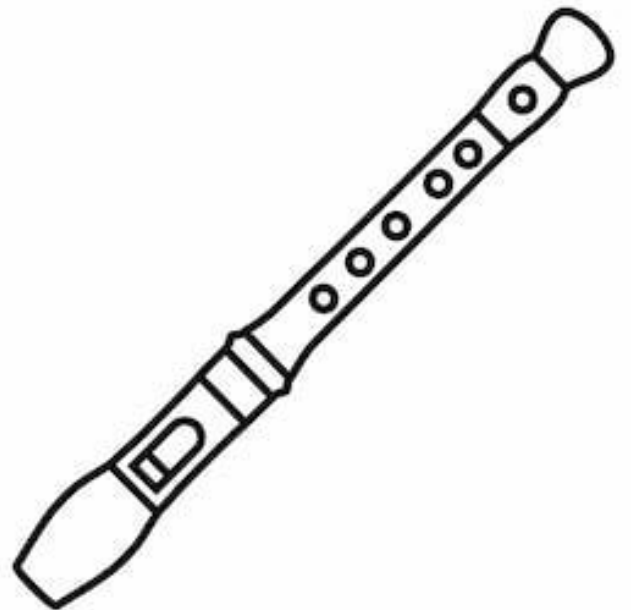
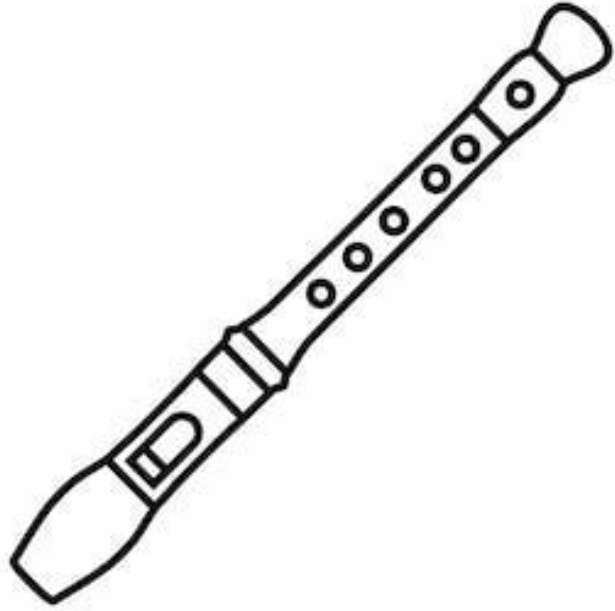
Directions: Paste paper on number 2. Color the maracas.

Instrucciones: Pega papel sobre el número 2. Colorea las maracas.

Three / Tres



TRES



Directions: Paste paper on number 3. Color the flutes.

Instrucciones: Pega papel sobre el número 3. Colorea las flautas.