

## Glass Xylophones: Tips and Songs

Once your students are more familiar with the sounds that these glasses make, and the amount of water required to make certain notes, you can have them measure out the water and systematically observe the different tones produced by the varying amounts of water. Depending on the age or ability of your students, you may prefer the more open-ended activity described above.

### **Doing the Activity:**

- 1) Divide children into teams of 2 or 3.
- 2) Collect 6 tall water glasses per team, water and several metal spoons or wooden chopsticks. The spoons work better and provide a clearer sound. If you are short on materials, you can make a “xylophone” for the whole group and have students take turns making music.
- 3) Label each of the glasses with the numbers 1–6, and fill them to the following levels:

- 1 – 5  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches
- 2 – 5  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches
- 3 – 4  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches
- 4 – 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches
- 5 – 3  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches
- 6 – 3  $\frac{1}{4}$  inches

Once filled, place the glasses in numerical order from left to right. To play the instrument, lightly tap the side of the glass with the spoon.

Allow your children to play the instruments and experiment with the different sound each glass produces.

Once they have mastered the instrument, you can challenge your students to play recognizable songs, make up their own songs or you can present kids with these song sheets:

### **Hot Cross Buns:**

Hot cross buns – Hot cross buns – One a pen - ny - Two a pen - ny -  
3 2 1 3 2 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 2 2  
Hot Cross Buns  
3 2 1

### **Mary Had a Little Lamb:**

Ma - ry had a lit-tle lamb – Lit-tle lamb, Lit-tle lamb – Ma-ry had a lit-tle  
3 2 1 2 3 3 3 2 2 2 3 5 5 3 2 1 2 3 3  
lamb – Its fleece was white as snow  
3 3 2 2 3 2 1

### **Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star:**

Twin-kle, Twin-kle, lit-tle staaaar – How I won-der what you aaare –  
1 1 5 5 6 6 5 4 4 3 3 2 2 1  
Up a-bove the world so high – Like a dia-mond in the skyyy –  
5 5 4 4 3 3 2 5 5 4 4 3 3 2  
Twin-kle, Twin-kle, lit-tle staaaar – How I won-der what you aaare.  
1 1 5 5 6 6 5 4 4 3 3 2 2 1