

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT CONTEST

Objective: build a homemade musical instrument and play a recognizable tune on it.

Rules:

- Work in teams of two students.
- Any materials may be used EXCEPT materials that are parts from a toy or professional instrument (such as guitar strings, picks, or wind chimes). NO electrics or electronics.
- You may NOT make an instrument that uses a mouthpiece to play it.
- You must be able to play a complete, in tune, 8-note scale on your instrument.
- You must be able to play a full verse of a recognizable song on your instrument. (The song must be recognizable by your teacher!)
- Your song must involve the use of at least 4 different notes, played on at least 4 different parts of your instrument (4 different strings, pipes, etc.)
- You must be able to explain how your instrument produces different tones.

Scoring: Score = total of the scores in the six different areas shown below:

Recognizable Song, 1-5 points:

- 5 = recognizable, full verse
- 4 = recognizable, only part of verse
- 3 = recognizable by beat only, full verse
- 2 = beats recognizable, only part of verse
- 1 = not recognizable

Accurate Tune, 1-5 points:

- 5 = all right notes
- 4 = one or two wrong notes
- 3 = some wrong notes
- 2 = many wrong notes
- 1 = all wrong notes

8-Note Scale, 1-5 points:

- 5 = full scale, all notes in tune
- 4 = full scale, a few wrong notes
- 3 = full scale, many wrong notes
- 2 = less than full scale, all in tune
- 1 = less than full scale, wrong notes

Unique Tune, 1-5 points:

- 5 = no other teams play same tune
- 4 = one other team plays same tune
- 3 = two other teams play same tune
- 2 = three other teams play same tune
- 1 = four other teams play same tune

Creativity, 1-5 points:

- 5 = no other teams use the same material in the same way
- 4 = one other team uses the same material in the same way
- 3 = two other teams use the same material in the same way
- 2 = three other teams use the same material in the same way
- 1 = four other teams use the same material in the same way

Construction Effort, 1-5 points:

- 5 = takes a lot of time to build, and plays well (such as metal or PVC pan pipes or chimes; metal or wood xylophone; guitar or banjo; piano)
- 4 = takes a lot of time to build, but plays poorly
- 3 = takes some time to build, and plays well (such as string or wire on a board or box; recorder or flute)
- 2 = take some time to build, but plays poorly
- 1 = takes little time to build (such as rubber bands on a board or box; water in bottles or jars)