

PLASTIC BOTTLE MARACAS



Materials

Plastic Bottles with Tops
 Sand, Rice, Lentils, Beans,
 Dried Peas
 Sticky-Back Contact Paper
 Funnel
 Stickers
 Markers and Crayons

Directions

1. Using the funnel, fill each bottle about one-third to half-full with sand, rice, dry lentils, beans, or peas. Secure the top and have children shake to see which filler makes the sound they like best (sand and small lentils produce softer, gentler sounds than the larger dried peas and beans).
2. Cover the entire bottle with the sticky-back contact paper, which helps prevent spills.
3. Children can then decorate their maracas with stickers, crayons, and markers.

Hints and Extended Learning Opportunities

- Read as a group, *Cinco de Mayo* by Emma Carlson Berne.
- Play a simple rhythm shaking a bottle maraca then have children repeat the rhythm using their maraca. Next allow children to take turns creating their own beat and having others imitate the sound.
- Use various size plastic bottles and various amounts of lentils or beans to fill the bottles to create a variety of sounds and tones.
- Use measuring cups to put specific amounts of beans or lentils into each maraca. Talk about measurements such as $\frac{1}{4}$ cup, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup.
- Listen to [Cinco de Mayo – The Kidboomers](#) while shaking maracas to the music.
- Play Cinco de Mayo Bingo (on next page).

