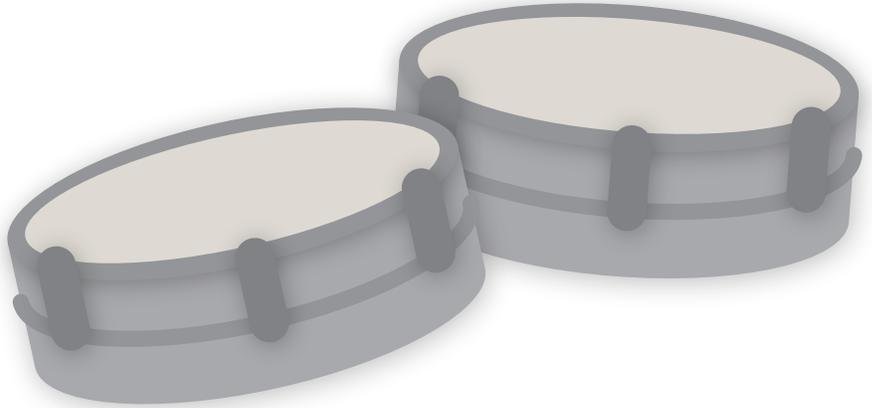


# Build and Play Timbales

Celebrate International Drum Month by making a drum of your very own!

## Collect

- 1 empty tin can
- 1 balloon
- Scissors
- Can opener
- Electrical or duct tape
- Pencil
- Cotton ball
- Paper, *optional*
- Glue, *optional*
- Art supplies, *optional*



## Build your drum

1. Remove the bottom of an empty tin can with a can opener. Ask an adult to check out the can to make sure the edges are not too sharp.
2. Remove the neck of the balloon with scissors. Stretch the balloon over one of the openings of the can.
3. Secure the balloon in place by running tape around the edge where the balloon and can meet.

## Create a mallet

4. Attach a cotton ball to one end of a pencil using tape.

## Decorate and play!

5. If you'd like, use art supplies to decorate the can and mallet.
6. Play your drum by tapping the mallet against the stretched balloon.

## How does it work?

In this experiment we created a model of a timbale drum. Timbales are shallow, single-headed drums with a metal casing that are often used in salsa music. Just like a real timbale, the sound of the drum from this experiment is created by beating a mallet over a stretched membrane or drumhead, causing audible vibrations.

## Take it further

Try out different sizes of drums and mallets! Collect different sizes of cans and repeat the building instructions from above. How does the size of the drum change the sound that it makes? What about using different types of mallets? Try a wooden spoon versus a metal spoon, or a plastic ruler versus a wooden ruler.

