



Make Your Own Drum Activity ***Making An Impact***

If you are looking to know more about Arab culture, I recommend becoming very friendly with Arabic music. Music is one of the best ways to get more connected to a culture. Some instruments are very well-known, such as the riqq, or tambourine (in English) and the nay, or flute (in English), while other instruments are a little more unique to Arabic music, such as the Oud and Qanun. The drum or derbekeh/tablah in Arabic; however, somewhat falls in between these two categories. While the drum is one of the most well-known instruments in music, in general, this specific type of drum used in Arabic music has a distinct look (see image below).

Let's take a look at the image of the drum below:

- What types of things do you notice about the drum?
- How does this drum differ from other drums you have seen?

Now it's time to make your own drum!

Materials you will need:

- aluminum coffee can with plastic lid
- colored paper
- denim
- any color yarn
- glue
- pencil
- scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut the colored paper the same height as the can. Make sure it's big enough to fit completely around the coffee can
2. Apply a layer of glue on the paper and place it on the can.
3. Cut a rectangle out of the denim.
4. Take the plastic lid and add a layer of glue on it's exterior side
 - a. Then place it on the denim rectangle. Let the glue dry.
5. Put lid back on top of coffee can so it closes.
6. Cut a long piece of yarn and spin it around the can, just under the lid. It can go around the can numerous times.
7. Do the same on the lower part of the can.
8. Your drum is ready! Feel free to decorate your drum to your liking!



Arab American National Museum