



25/50

# JOIN NATURE'S BAND

Head to any wild place, stop and listen for a minute. It won't take long to notice the music of nature and the longer you listen, the more you'll hear!

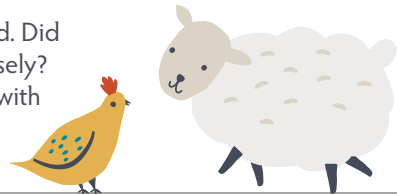
Birds singing, woodpeckers tapping, trees rustling, waves crashing and streams bubbling are just some of the sounds that nature makes. You're a part of nature too, so head outside and create your own special music!

Get out in the garden; go to the park, onto your street or near a local river. You can make natural music just about anywhere. Come and join nature's band and complete no. 25 of the National Trust's '50 things to do before you're 11 3/4'.

## IMITATE AN ANIMAL!

What creatures can you hear around you? Is a blackbird calling? Or maybe a fox is barking? You might hear the scurry of a mouse or the hoot of an owl. Think about what kind of animal noises can be heard and what that animal might be saying. Is it alarmed by something? Or is it singing to celebrate the arrival of a new season?

Once you've listened closely, try to imitate this animal or bird. Did they respond to you or did they go quiet and watch you closely? Maybe you can incorporate your animal sounds into a song with other natural musical instruments.



Inspired by the National Trust's '50 things to do before you're 11 3/4' No. 25 Join Nature's Band activity, we've created this fun download to give you inspiration for your music-making!

## FIND INSPIRATION AROUND YOU!

What can you find in nature that could make a great instrument? Have a look around you for ideas!

Use the crashing waves or trickle of a stream to be your rhythm while you keep a beat. If you're by the coast you might find you can make maracas from mussel shells, add pebbles to a rain stick, or use beach clean materials to create an instrument!

A couple of sticks and a tree trunk or a hollow log can make a great drum. What else can you use your sticks on to keep a beat? Maybe there's a fence or a wall nearby.

You can also look for two large smooth stones and see if you bang them together to keep a beat. Beating different parts of the stones may create a different sound.

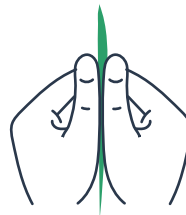


## MAKE A GRASS TRUMPET!

For the first try, find a fairly wide blade of grass. Once you've got the hang of it, you can try with different sizes to see if you get a different sound or tone.

Put your thumbs together and where there's a gap, that's where your blade of grass should go. It can help to hold the grass in place using your thumb knuckles first and then clamp it into position with the bottom of your hand.

Press your lips to your thumbs with the grass between them and blow. The grass should make a wailing, screeching sound, which will probably frighten anyone standing too close to you. Next make a small hole in the blade of grass with your fingernail - when you blow into it, you should hear an even louder noise than before.



To find out more about the National Trust's '50 things to do before you're 11 3/4' activity programme that inspired our new collection, head over to [nationaltrust.org.uk/50-things-to-do](https://nationaltrust.org.uk/50-things-to-do)

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Check out our NEW collection at [welovefrugi.com](https://welovefrugi.com)

