



EduTrend Contents

G4C · MUSIC AND MOVEMENT GAMES · MIDDLE SCHOOL

Found Sound Compositions

Compose a 30-second piece from everyday objects and record it in a graphic score

Ages 11–13

Level: Intermediate

40 minutes

Groups of 4 · up to 30

Activity 03

Inside: activity at a glance · step-by-step session plan · facilitator notes · 3 student worksheets · assessment checklist

ACTIVITY 03 · AT A GLANCE

Found Sound Compositions

Groups explore the sounds everyday objects can make: tapping a pencil case, scrunching paper, rolling a marble in a box. They choose four sounds and compose a 30-second piece with a beginning, middle and end, using changes in volume and speed. They draw a graphic score with symbols for each sound, then perform while another group follows the score.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the session students can:

- explore timbre;
- structure a short composition;
- use dynamics and tempo;
- notate with a graphic score.

KEY WORDS

timbre · dynamics · tempo ·
structure · graphic score · compose

CURRICULUM LINKS

Music: composition and notation.
Science: sound.

1**WARM UP**

Bodies and ears
ready

2**EXPLAIN**

One game, clear
signal

3**PLAY**

Listen, copy, create

4**PERFORM**

Share the sound

5**TALK**

What did you hear?

6**COOL DOWN**

Slow and calm

Materials (per group)

- Safe everyday objects
- Large paper for scores
- Timer
- Worksheets 1, 2 and 3

Before the session

- Collect safe objects.
- Prepare paper.
- Model a short score.
- Agree a stop signal.

SAFETY

Keep volume comfortable; no objects near ears
or faces.

ACTIVITY 03 • SESSION PLAN

Step by step

A graphic score lets students write music before learning standard notation.

Time	What happens	Say or ask
0–5 min Warm up	Find three sounds from your pencil case.	<i>“How are they different?”</i>
5–10 min Explain	Four sounds, 30 seconds, clear structure.	<i>“How will it start and end?”</i>
10–32 min Compose	Explore, compose, score.	<i>“Can someone else read your score?”</i>
32–40 min Perform	Perform and follow scores.	<i>“What made it musical?”</i>

CHALLENGE CARD (print or copy onto the board)

Compose a 30-second piece with a clear structure that another group can read from your score.

ACTIVITY 03 • FACILITATOR NOTES

The music game know-how in brief

Changes in volume and speed make simple sounds musical.

Symbols in a graphic score record choices so others can perform them.

Common ideas to listen for

- “Music needs real instruments.” Everyday objects work.
- “Composing is random.” Structure makes it music.
- “Scores must use notes.” Graphic symbols work.

Adapting the activity

Support

Provide a score template with a timeline.

Stretch

Add a repeated pattern that returns at the end.

WORKSHEET 1

Sound bank

Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Record your sounds.

Sounds

Object	How played	Symbol

WORKSHEET 2

Graphic score

Draw your score on a timeline.

0 s ——— 30 s

WORKSHEET 3

Reflection

Reflect.

Our piece was musical because...

FOR THE TEACHER

Assessment checklist

Use during the session. One sheet covers up to eight students; copy as needed.

Student	Explores sounds	Structures the piece	Notates clearly

Suggested codes: W = working towards · E = expected · G = greater depth

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

Found Sound Compositions is a sample activity from the EduTrend Contents G4C Music and Movement Games programme (middle school, level: intermediate). Every activity in the programme follows the same format: a practical challenge, a clear session plan, facilitator notes and ready-to-print worksheets, so that teachers, club leaders and parents can run it without extra preparation.

Full 15-, 20- and 32-week programmes are available from EduStore at edutrend.org.

© 2026 EduTrend Contents. This activity may be printed and copied for use with students in your own school, club or home. It may not be resold or published elsewhere. Photos: Nana Adwuma / Unsplash.