

Music and Multimedia

Gold Award

**Lots of Littles Kit**

**Manufacturer:** Sound Children  
**Tel:** 0800 157 7686/  
**01159 314 513**  
**Web:** www.soundchildren.co.uk  
**Price:** £355.71  
**(education price is £249.00)**  
**Age range:** 1-5 years

**Description:** With 60 instruments, the Lots of Littles Kit is perfect for exploring instruments with several groups or even a whole class of 30+ children. There's also a set of 30 music cards plus a "what it's called and where it's from" card, that tells you about each of the instruments in the kit. It all packs away neatly into 2 bamboo baskets.

**Score:** 93.4%

**What the testers said:** "This was a fantastic kit which the children absolutely loved. We were very keen on encouraging the children to be creative and active through music and movement and this set definitely supports that. The products are well made, child-friendly

and durable. The music cards were well laid out and were full of ideas. The complete set originates from all over the world and allowed us to encourage the children to extend their knowledge of the world as a whole. A definite keeper and highly recommended."



Silver Award

**Nursery Rhythm Kit**

**Manufacturer:** Sound Children  
**Tel:** 0800 1577 686/  
**0115 931 4513**  
**Web:** www.soundchildren.co.uk  
**Price:** £141-£143  
**(education - £99)**  
**Age range:** 1-5 years

**Description:** 14 percussion instruments with lots of variety to encourage all sorts of movements and interactions, a big drum for the teacher. Comes with Music Cards with hints and ideas for 25 musical play sessions, plus information about each of the instruments. Everything fits neatly into the compact bamboo storage basket.

**Score:** 88.1%

**What the testers said:** "All the children really enjoyed this, investigating the new instruments and looking at how they could be used before they were told how to use them. Good ideas in the instruction cards, best suited to adult-led and directed learning or older children who could read and follow multiple stage instructions. Great content and a good storage basket too."



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**Teachers Kit**

**Manufacturer:** Sound Children  
**Tel:** 0800 1577 686  
**Web:** www.soundchildren.co.uk  
**Price:** £129 (nursery price)  
**Age range:** 1-5 years

**Description:** The perfect add-on for settings that have lots of good instruments already includes a drum for the teacher, 30 music cards with hints and ideas for 25 musical play sessions and some unusual extras: stethoscopes, harmonicas, ping-pong balls and wrapping paper. You'll be amazed by how much learning can be sparked off by a little blurring of the normal musical boundaries.

**Score:** 86.5%

**What the testers said:** "The children absolutely loved this! They have really enjoyed using the ping pong balls on the drum and listening to the different sounds. They have been quickly bored with some other instruments but this held their interest. It is great value for money as it contains such a wide variety of instruments. The instruction cards had some really good ideas which really appealed to our age group."



Winner

**NurseryWorld  
Awards 13  
Equipment**

**Three to Fives**

**Big Stuff Kit, Sound Children**



**"This fabulous collection of instruments has encouraged us to take music in the nursery to another level"** Practitioner

The Big Stuff Kit contains 15 large and unusual instruments originating from all over the world. Instruments include bongos, a giant bamboo thunder drum, a long clacker and a ceng ceng turtle.

The musical instruments are impressively big and often give children a feeling of power as they make a noise from something large. The physical act of playing the instruments helps to develop children's co-ordination and encourage concentration.

A set of 30 innovative music cards included in the kit provides practitioners with hints and ideas for 25 musical play sessions and a

'What it's called and where it's from' card gives interesting background information about each of the instruments included. Playing the instruments can lead to discussions between children and practitioners about different places in the world, a variety of cultures and celebrations.

The instruments and teaching materials are also backed up by free online support from experts, as well as lots of useful videos and background information.

The instruments are all made in Bali and the designs were drawn by Balinese school children. There are interesting videos on the

website of the children playing many of the instruments.

The Big Stuff Kit is designed to enable professionals who have not had specialist music training to deliver stimulating musical exploration sessions that are fun and educational. The instruments are aimed at children aged from one to five years old of all abilities. They can be used for inspiration in creative play. There is a wide range of sounds, many of which are unusual and evocative, and the instruments are made of tough material so that they can be taken outside and cope with the rigours of an early years setting.

**NurseryWorld  
Shortlist 2013  
Awards**



**Nursery Starter Kit**

**NURSERY WORLD AWARDS 2012 EQUIPMENT**

**Early years and staff equipment: three to fives**



**Winner  
Dream Drum, Drums for Schools**

The Dream Drum is a unique yet simple pitched percussion instrument with a soothing, meditative sound. It is easy and satisfying to play and offers a range of learning opportunities in early years settings.

It is suitable both for supervised and unsupervised play and can be used indoors and outside. It can be played solo or together, used as a sound background for storytelling and play in small groups, or played alongside singing or other percussion or melodic instruments.

The Dream Drum has nine pitched notes – one for each of the eight 'tongues' or keys on the surface of the drum – and the smaller the key, the higher the pitch. Each drum comes with three different beaters all made from felt, synthetic rubber and recycled car tyre.

The Dream Drum itself is made from a recycled cooking gas container with its valves and feet removed, fired to make it resonant. Grooves have been cut into the drum's surface to make the 'tongues' that produce the notes. You can use your fingertips for single notes, and use two or more fingers, your whole hand, or even two hands together for chords.

The product comes in a kit that includes the drum, a padded canvas carry case, a drum rest and the three beaters.

There is a natural resonance that means the

Dream Drum caresses the ears and encourages relaxed, attentive listening – a rare quality these days but an absolute essential skill for learning how to engage.

It is a simple and immediately accessible instrument and allows for creative and reflective skills to be experienced and developed together. It has dozens of applications in SEN settings and, because of the vibrations it makes, is particularly useful for the hearing impaired.

**'A unique resource with a unique sound. It allows for creative skills to be developed together'** Judge

**Dream Drum**

**Manufacturer:** Drums for Schools  
**Tel:** 0800 157 7686  
**Web:** www.drumsforschools.co.uk  
**Price:** Educational £116.90  
**RRP £167.00**  
**Age range:** 3 years +



**Description:** The Dream Drum is a simple pitched percussion instrument with a soothing, meditative sound that is easy and satisfying to play. It is suitable for both supervised and unsupervised play and can be used indoors and outside. It can be played solo or in small groups; you can sing along, add melodic instruments and use as a sound background for storytelling.

**Score:** 86.6%

**What the testers said:** "This was a very appealing resource; both the staff and children were very excited to receive it. The children enjoyed listening to the different sounds and then producing them together as a group. The drum encouraged talking, communication and teamwork and was still appealing at the end of the trial."



**Musical Baby Bonding Kit**

**Manufacturer:** Drums for Schools  
**Tel:** 0800 157 7686  
**Web:** www.drumsforschools.co.uk  
**Price:** Educational £24.50. RRP £35.00  
**Age range:** Up to 1 year

**Description:** This kit is a tool to help parents and carers make music with babies and to build both the baby's awareness and the mutual responsiveness of baby and parent/carer. The simple, tried and tested approach is based on modern scientific research, yet is consistent with the ancient folk wisdom.

**Score:** 81.2%

**What the testers said:** "All the instruments come in a delightful little basket; they are well-made and feature a variety of sounds to keep your baby interested. The kit is great for creative learning and making relationships. The CD is a good idea to tell you the tone and speed to sing at, but some words are not pronounced clearly."

