To earn this badge, you will make an instrument using objects you can find in your everyday life. These objects are called “found objects.”

First, work with a friend to think of different ways to make sounds with your bodies and objects in the room – such as clapping, whistling, zipping a backpack, or closing a door. What other sounds can you think of?

Once you have tried out a few sounds together, draw two lines down one of your Amani notebook pages, to make three columns. At the top of the columns write “My Guess” (left column), “Found Object” (middle column) and “Instruments” (right column). Ask your friend (the “Player”) to make a sound using a found object while you (the “Guesser”) face away and close your eyes. Have your notebook ready! When your friend finishes making the sound, open your eyes and write down in the left (My Guess) column what object you think made the sound. Don’t worry about being right or wrong, just guess! Then, ask your friend what made the sound, and write the correct answer in the middle (Found Object) column. Make sure to write your guess in the left column and the correct answer in the middle column. Repeat this process up to 10 times, switching “Guesser”/“Player” roles with your partner each time.

In the right (Instruments) column, list as many musical instruments as you can think of. Compare your list of found objects to your list of musical instruments. Ask yourself, “Which found objects and instruments look similar? Which sound similar?” Draw lines across the columns to connect found objects to similar instruments.

Now, from your Found Objects column, choose a found object that you would like to turn into a musical instrument. Use the word “because” to explain why you made your choice. For example, “I want my instrument to be a stick hitting the ground because it would be easy to play wherever I go.”
**THEN**

For this step, you will create your instrument! Your instrument might not be difficult to make (for example, tapping a pencil on a desk), or it might take some more effort to make (for example, creating a shaker by putting pebbles in a can). Take time to personalize your instrument by colouring it, writing your name on it, or adding anything else that is special to you. Once you have created your instrument, ask yourself the following questions:

*Am I happy with how this instrument sounds? Does it sound musical to me?*

*Am I happy with how this instrument looks?*

*Is this instrument loud enough for everybody in the room to hear?*

*Can I play this instrument both loudly and quietly? Can I play this instrument both fast and slow?*

If the answer to any of these questions is “No”, make changes so that you can answer “Yes!” to all of them. If you would like some ideas and examples, ask your Amani mentor to review Instrument Cards.

**FINALLY**

Test your instrument by playing it for a few of your friends, and ask for helpful feedback. Your friends should use the word “because” when giving feedback to explain why they like or dislike something. For example, “I like your rubber band guitar because it looks cool, but it might be hard for everyone in the room to hear because the sound is very quiet.” Make changes to your instrument based on the feedback you find helpful.

Finally, ask your Amani mentor to look at your instrument and review your work so you can get your badge. Be prepared to explain your choices. Make sure you bring your instrument with you to each Amani Club meeting so you can practise playing it each week.

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