JUNIOR: MUSICIAN

Hey Girl Scout! Just about everyone loves music. And making it is just as fun as listening to it! Whether you’re already a musician, or you just want to see what it’s like to make sounds on an instrument, there’s something for you in this badge. When you’ve earned this badge, you’ll know how music is made and how to perform music yourself.

Step 1: Explore how music is made

1. All music is made up of individual sounds called notes. Played in a certain order, notes make a song. Instruments turn songs into music, and the music shares a mood with the audience. You are going to learn about 3 different instruments to get started.
2. With an adult’s help, search online for information about 3 different instruments. Find out things like:
   a. when and where the instrument was invented
   b. how the instrument is made
   c. what kinds of music the instrument is used in

Supplies:

   1. Computer

Step 2: Travel around the world of music

1. Music is as varied as the people who make it. Take this chance to travel back in time or to different countries through sound. We are learn about different composers. A composer is someone who writes music.
2. With an adult’s help, you will be learning about a composer online. You will be creating a short presentation about the composer for the people in your home. For your presentation, you can give a speech, create a poster, compose a song, or make up a skit.
3. Take time to create your presentation and then perform it!

Supplies:

   1. Computer
   2. Supplies for presentation

Step 3: Check out the music in your life

1. Your family and friends probably like certain types of music more than others. Maybe your community or city is famous for a certain type of music. Let’s find out more about the music that’s all around you. Nashville is known as “Music City.” Do you know what type of music the city is known for? Nashville is famously known for country music, but now all types of music are created here. Spend some time talking to people in your home about their favorite types of music and get them to share a favorite song with you.

Supplies: None

Step 4: Make your own music

1. Try out your music skills by making your own instrument or writing lyrics for a song. Think about how you want to perform in the last step, so you can use this one to prepare. If you would like to build a musical instrument, you can use the objects you find around your home. If you would like to write lyrics for a song, you can write them set to music that you create or that already exists.
2. Here are some instrument building ideas:
a. Different amounts of water in glasses or bottles. You can tap on the glasses to make different sounds
b. A box with rubber bands or strings to make sounds like a guitar
c. Creating a drum

Supplies:
1. Instrument building supplies

**Step 5: Perform your music**
1. And now you get to perform! Show off the song you wrote or the instrument you created to those in your home.