

## **Music**

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### **Suggestions for Family Activities**

Music adds charm and joy to the world of toddlers. They enjoy listening to it, and producing a drumming sound from random items such as pots and tables, or clapping and tapping spoons together. Music helps them collaborate as they play it together and express themselves; and if any of them do not like playing a certain instrument, they can always choose another, stamp their feet, or be the conductors, like Gilly.

**Take up the melody, and sound the timbrel, the sweet harp  
with the psaltery**

[Psalms 81:3]

### **A piece of advice when reading as a family**

Toddlers like to be part of the story: Repeating words and sounds found in the book, or dramatizing the actions taken by the different characters. It is their way of identifying with the story, enriching their emotional worlds, and acquiring vocabulary and concepts. That is why, when reading together, you could “play” the trumpet, “beat” on a drum using your hands, and pretend you’re a choir conductor.

## **Discussion**

Gilly finds a job that suits her as the conductor of the orchestra. Following her decision, you too can discuss your toddlers' roles at home: What can they do and what do they want to do? Pick up their toys? Sweep the floor? Help set the table for dinner?

## **Listening to the story**

What does the orchestra under Maestro Gilly sound like? Please scan the QR code printed on the back of the book to listen to the story.

## **Playing music together**

Almost any item can become a musical instrument: You could clap together to the rhythm of the song, or collect any instruments, rattles, and utensils you can find. A pot with spoons can be a drum, a used roll of paper towels can be a trumpet. You could even try to tap various materials to find out what kinds sounds tapping wood makes? And what about tapping the floor? Or metal? You may enjoy picking one of your favorite songs and playing it together.

## **Being an orchestra conductor**

Are your toddlers conductors? While listening to your favorite music together, you could hold a small stick and "conduct". Perhaps you could dance to the music, acting out the various instruments, and switch roles from time to time.



Suggestions for making musical instruments, songs and arts & crafts are available on the Sifriyat Pijama Pinterest.