

Music Around the Year

So much music surrounds us, we may not always be aware of it. This activity invites you to find and celebrate the music that you hear all around you—all around the year.

Supplies Pencil, paper, Seasonal Round Calendar, optional crayons, markers, and Song Interview Worksheet

Directions

1. Write down what you know about music—where you hear it, types you know about, what you perform and like to listen to.
2. Next make a list of all the music you hear every day, for example, movies, music class, phone ring tones, video games, singing with friends and family.
3. Now think about how music changes around the year, from holiday songs to playground chants, family and community celebrations to sports events. Use the Seasonal Round Calendar to record what kind of music you hear or play during different months (maybe your birthday, for example) and seasons (like summer camp songs). You may use crayons or markers if you like. Share your finished calendar with friends and family at home or virtually.

Bonus Activities

- Listen to Smithsonian Folkways Holiday Music Around the World <http://storymaps.esri.com/stories/2013/holiday-music>
- Check out “The Look of the Listen” Folkways album cover art exhibition and make an album cover for your favorite seasonal song or type of music <https://folkways.si.edu/feature/look-of-the-listen/main.html>.
- Add a question about music around the year to the Song Interview Worksheet (<https://locallearningnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/LLResourcesSongInterviewWorksheet.pdf>) and survey others about how their seasonal music changes.