



EASTER AT HOME

Instruments: 2 wooden claves/tick-tock sticks, an egg shaker or any form of other shaker like maracas.

Home Instrument Alternatives: 2 kitchen utensils with wooden/plastic handles, tupperware with some lentils/rice inside. Or anything tappy or shaky!

Craft: Colour-in and cut-out Easter notation symbols and hot-cross buns and decorate your own Easter bunny masks.

Suggested Music on Spotify and Apple Music. Search for: [Harmony's Music Club – Easter at Home](#)

1. [Hoppy music for hopping along](#)
2. [Improvisation game: bunny-rabbits compose](#)
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1. MUSIC TO SET THE EASTER SCENE: SCHON. ROSMARIN – KREISLER

Explain to your child that we are going on an Easter Adventure.

Put the music on and ask what Easter animal they might be able to hear? If they can't/won't guess give them some leads - is it a slow animal? A bouncy animal? A slithery animal? etc. Can they hear how it is moving?

I can imagine the Easter bunny hopping around and I ask the children if they can hear it and whether they can join in.



2. IMPROVISATION GAME – BUNNY RABBITS COMPOSE!

Instruments: Egg shaker and claves

Home Alternative: Tupperware with lentils/rice and wooden/plastic kitchen utensils.

Craft: Three notation symbols for colouring-in and/or cutting-out

Background:

At the back of this pack there are three pictures or 'notation symbols': a carrot; a flower; and an egg. Print out as many as you want of each. Or choose your own symbols. My children like to colour them in.

Each symbol represents a different sound or action for your child to make – their choice. Suggestions are:

1. the egg is the egg shaker;
2. the flower means tapping claves; and
3. the carrot is a bunny hop.

You could just do 3 actions or 3 sounds, or 1 sound and 2 actions etc. Freedom and imagination are key save for repeating the action/sound each time the notation symbol reappears.

Musicianship:

This game gets children thinking, making things up, reading a form of notation and lets them be in control of composing.

The Game:

Pretend that you are bunnies or another Easter animal.

Let your child choose actions/sounds for each symbol and line them up in the order which they choose.

Going from left to right do the first symbol action/sound, then the first 2 then the first 3 etc



Jumble them all up and repeat at the end! Add more symbols... add more actions ... add more sounds the game is endless!

3. LISTENING MUSIC:

A. Trio en sol majeur, L. 3: II. Scherzo – M. Ravel

B. Humoresque, Op. 101, No.7 – A Dvorak

C. Craft: The Easter Bunny Mask template is at the back of this pack. Either put holes in for some ribbon or stick lollysticks on so that they can hold them in front of their faces.

Decorate your Easter bunny mask while listening to the music. Can your child hear the bunnies hopping? Do they want to join in?



4. JOINING IN MUSIC 1: SLEEPING EASTER ANIMALS – SINGING AND ACTIONS

Actions: Curl up on the floor for each verse and hop/flap/skip as appropriate in the chorus.

I have only included an instrumental version as there are lots of variations in words and I have written an Easter version. The animals I have chosen are all spring and Easter associated animals so the Easter Bunny, little chicks, baa-lambs.

See the Easter Bunny sleeping til it's nearly noon

Shall we wake him with a merry tune.

Oh how still. Is he ill?

Wake up now!

Hop Easter Bunny! Hop! Hop! Hop!

Hop! Hop! Hop! Hop! Hop! Hop!

Hop Easter Bunny! Hop! Hop! Hop!

Hop! Hop! Hop!

See the little chicks sleeping til it's nearly noon

Shall we wake them with a merry tune.

Oh how still. Are they ill?

Wake up now!



**Cheep little chickies! Cheep! Cheep!
Cheep!**

Cheep! Cheep! Cheep! Cheep! Cheep! Cheep!

Cheep Little chickies! Cheep! Cheep! Cheep!

Cheep! Cheep! Cheep!

See the little baa-lambs sleeping til it's nearly noon

Shall we wake them with a merry tune.

Oh how still. Are they ill?

Wake up now!

Skip little baa-lambs! Skip! Skip! Skip!

Skip! Skip! Skip! Skip! Skip! Skip!

Skip little baa-lambs! Skip! Skip! Skip!

Skip! Skip! Skip!

See the Easter Bunny sleeping til it's nearly noon

Shall we wake him with a merry tune.

Oh how still. Is he ill?

Wake up now!

Hop Easter Bunny! Hop! Hop! Hop!

Hop! Hop! Hop! Hop! Hop! Hop!

Hop Easter Bunny! Hop! Hop! Hop!

Hop! Hop! Hop!



5. JOINING IN MUSIC 2: LA RASPA

Instruments: Claves and maracas

Home Instrument Alternatives: Wooden/plastic utensils and Tupperware with lid containing rice/lentils.

Background:

This is a Mexican piece which is a great chance to get the atlas out.

I chose it as I think you can relate to bunnies hopping around or even Mexican jumping beans!! The music is so lively that your child might want to dance bounce along not play which is obviously fine – it is just lovely for them to hear different music!

Musicianship Game:

La Raspa is a great piece for children to play along to and try out not just banging away but to put some sometimes much needed rests into their playing!

If you want to try putting some rests in you could say the following before starting:

Listen to me start stop, start stop, start stop,

Now you can start stop just like me! Stop!

while tapping out the rhythm on your **claves/kitchen utensils:**

Tap–rest tap–rest tap–rest throughout so that “rest” coincides with “stop” and there is no playing on stop.

Have a go together! It can take a few goes.

On the “rest” it can be helpful to still get children to move their hands so that they can feel the pulse in the rest – I get them to move their hands apart. It also gives them something to do rather than bang!



Playing Along:

Suggestions for playing along are below and all use the idea of tap-rest. You can also try tap-tap-tap-rest if feeling adventurous.

I swap between instruments below

There is no need to follow what I set out but sometimes it's helpful to give children some guidance. I have divided the piece up by which instrument is playing so that you know where to change instruments.

However, my children like to dance and play in their own way!

Trumpet tune: **Claves:** Tap-rest rhythm. The stop should come in the rest.

Guitar and violins: **Shaker:** tap off the palm of one hand for a bit and then the other changing when you wish

Trumpet returns: **Claves:** Tap-rest rhythm but tap the floor in the rest

Guitar and violins: **Shaker:** shake above your head/behind your back/whatever takes your fancy

Trumpet returns: **Claves:** tap-stop rhythm behind your back/above your head

New violin tune: **Maracas** – shake shakers however you want!

Trumpet tune returns: **Claves:** tap-rest rhythm how you want ...

I stop at the end of this section but you could go on ...

If your child wants to play differently, just follow their lead. They have plenty of ideas!

6. JOINING IN MUSIC 3: THE EASTER BUNNY – SINGING AND ACTIONS

I have written an Easter Bunny version of Peter Rabbit's got a fly upon his nose. I have only included an instrumental version because I have changed the words. It is sung to the tune Battle Song of the Republic like the original Peter Rabbit song.

[Tap toes]

The Easter Bunny's got a spider on his toes!

The Easter Bunny's got a spider on his toes!

The Easter Bunny's got a spider on his toes!

[Swat toes to get rid of it]

And he flipped and he flapped it!

[move hand across the floor wiggling fingers to imitate a spider running away]

And the spider ran away!

[Make bunny ears with hands on head for floppy ears and make pretend curly whiskers coming off your face for the curly whiskers]

Floppy ears and curly whiskers!

Floppy ears and curly whiskers!

Floppy ears and curly whiskers!

[As above]

And he flipped it and he flapped it and the fly flew away!



7. COUNTING SONG: 5 HOT-CROSS BUNS IN A BAKER'S SHOP (TO THE TUNE OF 5 CURRANT BUNS IN A BAKER'S SHOP)

CRAFT: Hot-cross bun template at the end. Children can colour them in and cut them out so that they can be taken away as the song goes down.

I was unable to locate an instrumental version of 5 currant buns and so have not added music for this to the playlist.

[5]/[4]/[3]/[2]/[1]/[no] hot-cross buns in a baker's shop

Yummy and warm with a **cross** upon the top

Along came [your child's name/mummy/daddy/brother/sister/friend etc] with a penny one day

Bought a hot-cross bun and ate it right away.

Leaving

[Repeat for number left]







