

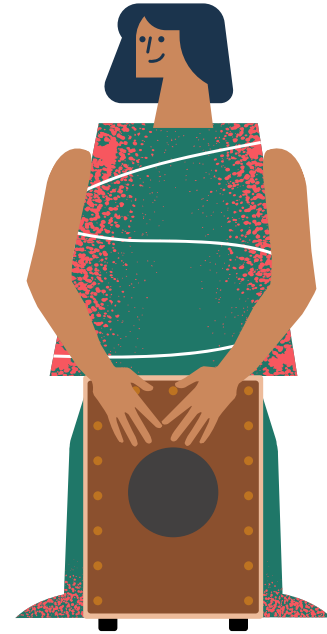
STEAM in the Classroom

SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY-ENGINEERING-AGRICULTURE-ART-MATH

CAJÓN

For this activity you will need:

- Cardboard box or shoebox
- Scissors (or something else to cut a hole)
- Markers/paint/crayons
- Any other decorations for your drum!
(stickers, ribbon, etc.)



Introduction:

September 15th- October 15th is annually celebrated in the United States as **National Hispanic Heritage Month**. National Hispanic Heritage Month traditionally honors the cultures and contributions of both Hispanic and Latin Americans as we celebrate heritage rooted in all Latin American countries.

In honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month, the STEAM Challenge this week will be to make a Cajón! Cajóns are box-shaped drums that originate from Peru, played by slapping the front or back sides of the box with your hands, palms, and fingers to create rhythms! Cajóns were originally made from dresser drawers or shipping crates by African slaves in Peru in the 18th Century. It's now used primarily in Afro-Peruvian music but has also made its way into flamenco!



CAJÓN (continued)

Directions:

1. Take your cardboard box or shoebox and trace a circle on one of the long sides of your box.
2. Next, use your scissors or another tool (you may need help from an adult) to cut out your circle.
3. It's that easy, your Cajón is now ready to play! All that's left is to decorate! Decorate your Cajón with markers, crayons, ribbon, stickers, and more.

Time to Play:

All drumming consists of creating a series of patterns with sounds. Strike your box and get to know its different tones. Listen for the “boom” sound in the middle and the “tap” sound when you strike the edges of the box. Then mix and match what you find to make new beats! Try playing along to some of your favorite songs or do some research into Afro-Peruvian musical groups like Perú Negro and popular music like El Festejo!



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