

The Ark and Improvised Music Company present



MONSTER MUSIC IMPROV



A MUSIC
IMPROVISATION AND
VISUAL ADVENTURE
FOR CHILDREN AGED

5+

At-Home Activities

Part 2



The Ark

IMC
CREATIVE ABOUT MUSIC

Introduction

Monster Music Improv is a music performance created especially for children, which has been conceived, developed and produced by The Ark and Improvised Music Company. The show consists of new arrangements of songs and music together with improvisation - both musical and visual – all linked through a fun monster theme.

Monster Music Improv was performed by acclaimed jazz vocalist and improviser Lauren Kinsella, guitarist and technology-whizz Shane Latimer and inventive cartoonist Patrick Sanders. Get ready for a music improvisation and visual adventure!

These activities and the show itself are aimed at children aged 5+ and work with the themes of the show. The activities have been selected and adapted from our full classroom activity pack, which links to aspects of the primary school curriculum. If you would like further activities, you can download the full document for free [here](#), or you can enjoy more at-home activities in **Part 1** of our *Monster Music Improv At-Home Activity Pack* [here](#).



Activity 5 - David the Drummer

Listen to “David the Drummer” at the following link:

<https://soundcloud.com/the-ark-music/david-the-drummer-demonstration>

- ‘Swing rhythm’ is used a lot in jazz music. Practise clicking/clapping on beats 2 and 4. You can use this link to practise with, which is the rhythm only:
<https://soundcloud.com/the-ark-music/david-the-drummer-rhythm-only>
- Nod your head for each ‘rest’ (i.e. the 1st and 3rd beats)

Activity 6 - Monster Soundscapes

Using your choice from the two links below with soundscapes from the show as a basis, compose a “Monster Soundscape” based on any aspect of the ‘Monster’ theme you desire.

<https://soundcloud.com/the-ark-music/monster-soundscape-1>

<https://soundcloud.com/the-ark-music/monster-soundscape-2>

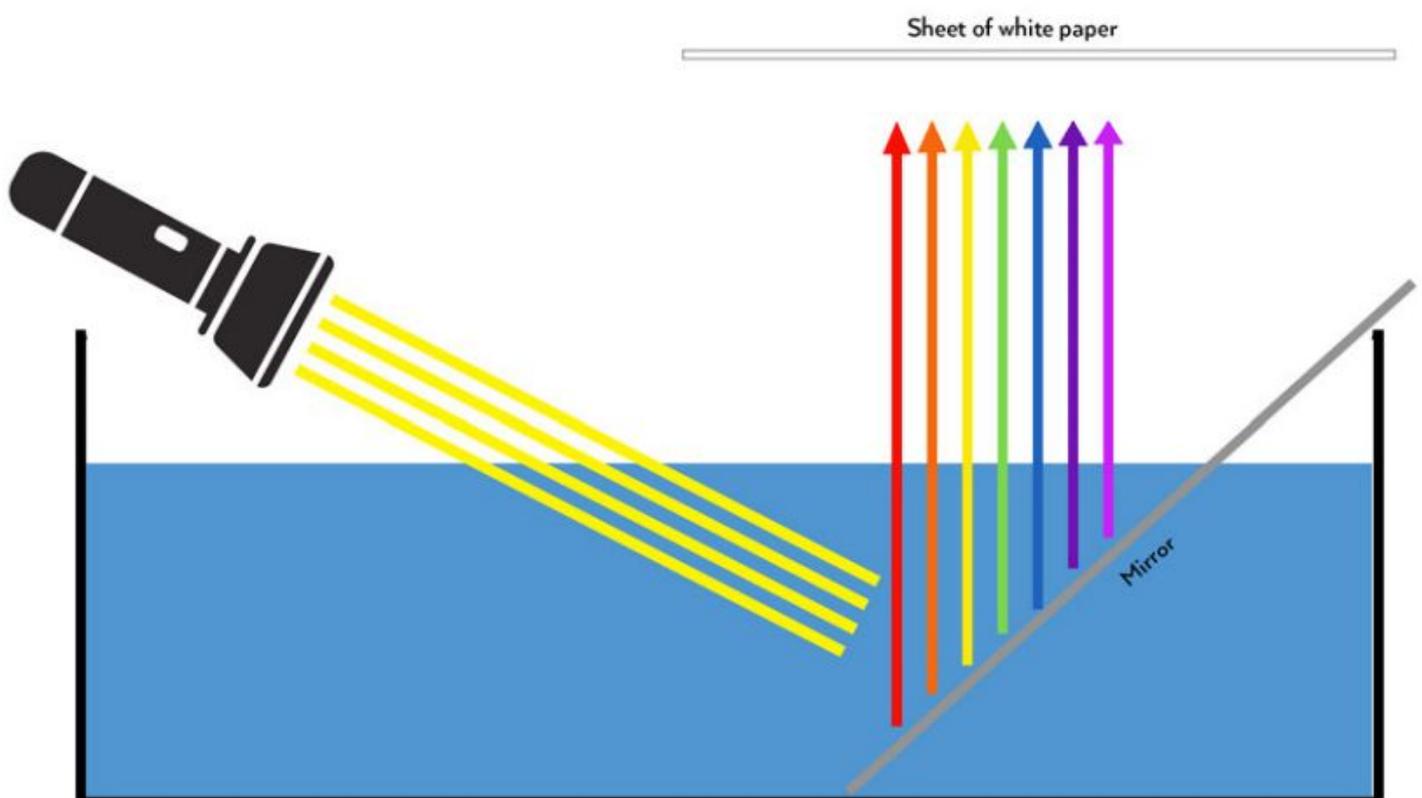
- You could make up a simple story about your monster. What does s/he sound like? Where does s/he live? For example, “we met a very hairy but happy monster, he jumped out to shake hands, we ran away.”
- You can use balloons, fingertips on table-tops and vocals as in the show, as well as whatever instruments you might have at home, body percussion sounds, or household objects, electronic media etc. to create your own range of imaginative sounds to choose from.
- You might want to make all the sounds at once. Remember that sometimes structure is important – so is silence (or ‘rests’ in music) so that the music can be better understood.
- Record and discuss your performances with your family.

Activity 7 - Science Experiment: Make a Rainbow

What you'll need: Rectangular cake tin or shallow pan, small mirror, torch (or sunlight), sheet of white paper, modelling clay, water, ruler.

- Fill a square cake tin or shallow pan half-way full with water.
- Place the mirror in the water at an angle. The mirror will act as a prism.
- When the water is completely smooth, shine the light into the water where the mirror is under water (or, using the sunlight, bring the pan and mirror outside so the sun can shine on the mirror underwater).
- Hold the white paper above the mirror; gently move and adjust the mirror until you see a rainbow appear on the white paper!
- Fix the mirror in place with a ruler and blobs of modelling clay.
- Record your results.

Expected outcome: Light from the sun or electric light looks white or colourless, but in fact it is made up of lots of colours. These colours can be seen if a beam of light is split by a triangular lens called a prism. On bright, wet days, drops of rainwater sometimes act as prisms, splitting light into the arched band of colours we know as a rainbow.



Activity 8 - Somewhere over the Rainbow

Learn and sing the song, *Over The Rainbow*, so you become familiar and confident with singing it. You can listen to the song as sung in the show at the following link: <https://soundcloud.com/the-ark-music/somewhere-over-the-rainbow>

- See below for lyrics and a simple chord chart in the key of C. In the show, the song is sung in the key of A, but the key of C is better for children's voices and will be easier for you to sing.
- Do you have instruments at home? If you do, you could try to play the piece using the music below.

Somewhere Over the Rainbow by Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg

Somewhere over the rainbow
Way up high
There's a land that I heard of
Once in a lullaby

Somewhere over the rainbow
Skies are blue
And the dreams that you dare to dream
Really do come true

Someday I'll wish upon a star
And wake up where the clouds are far behind me
Where troubles melt like lemon drops
Away above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me

Somewhere over the rainbow
Bluebirds fly
Birds fly over the rainbow.
Why then, oh, why can't I?

Chord Chart in Key of C

Somewhere Over the Rainbow

music by Harold Arlen and lyrics by E.Y. Harburg

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of five staves. Each staff includes a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. Chords are indicated by letters above the staff lines. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Staff 1: Chords: C, Emin, F, C, F. Lyrics: Some - where o - ver the rain - bow, way up high There's a
Some - where o - ver the rain - bow, skies are blue And the
Some - where o - ver the rain - bow, blue birds fly Birds fly

Staff 2: Chords: C, Amin, Dmin, G, C. Lyrics: land that I heard of once in a lull - a - by
dreams that you dare to dream rea - lly do come true...Some
o - ver the rain - bow why then oh why can't I?

Staff 3: Chords: C, G7, Dm. Lyrics: day I'll wish up - on a star and wake up where the clouds are far be - hind

Staff 4: Chords: F, G, C. Lyrics: me Where trou - bles melt like le - mon drops a -

Staff 5: Chords: Adim, Emin, G, Dmin, G. Lyrics: way a - bove the chim - ney tops that's where you'll find me

We'd love to know how you get on with these at-home activities. Please let us know by asking a grown-up to email us at boxoffice@ark.ie or tag us **@TheArkDublin** and using the **#TheArkAtHome**. Send us recordings of your singing, pictures of your experiments, whatever you'd like to share!

These activities are adapted from The Ark's Classroom Activity Pack written by Olivia McTernan to accompany the show Monster Music Improv.

Cover Design by Donal Thornton

Monster illustrations by Patrick Sanders

All audio and lyrics referenced in the pack are arranged by Shane Latimer and performed by Lauren Kinsella and Shane Latimer.



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agus Scileanna
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