

## What will you choose to do?

- Make a tin can telephone with a friend. Investigate which connectors transfer the sound most effectively (maybe wool, string or plastic coated wire). What is the longest connector you can use that still transfers the message? Does the connector need to be taut? Try using yoghurt pots instead of tin cans. Which work best?

**A responsible adult should drill or punch a hole into the bottom of each can and check that the cans have no sharp edges.**

- Watch online footage of brass bands. Create a musical band at home with family or friends, improvising with instruments to achieve different sounds. Compose some music of your own or play a well-known tune.
- Design a uniform for a marching band. Look at online images for inspiration.
- Listen to another traditional tale featuring a soldier character, perhaps *The Tinder Box* or *Stone Soup*. Practise retelling the story, preparing to tell it to your classmates at school. Perhaps you could make stick puppets to bring the characters to life?
- Record some sounds at home to create a sound quiz. What about the sound of the washing machine, the babbling of your baby brother or sister or the theme tune to your favourite TV programme? Can your classmates identify the sounds?
- Find a poem, nursery rhyme or song about marching. Learn it by heart to perform at school.
- Using the web, find out about interesting drums from other countries. Draw a picture of your favourite, locate its country of origin on a world map and watch an online video of someone playing it.
- Find out if any local bands perform in your area – many parks have a local bandstand with summer performances. Perhaps you could attend a show and pick out your favourite instrument?
- Do some online research to find out about some of the commands used to instruct marching bands, such as 'left face', 'horns up', 'parade rest' – what do they mean?

