



In the garden...

Child of Tree is a piece of music composed by John Cage which uses found objects. Listen to this beautiful performance by Rosie Bergonzi

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GYNUIZaNHZE>

What instruments do you recognise and what other sound makers can you spot? How many can you find in your garden or in your local park?

This piece was originally used as music for dance. Composer John Cage was inspired to create the piece when a dancer brought him a dried cactus, placed it near his ear, and plucked its spines. The composer instructs the performer to only use instruments made from plants.

Instead of music notes, the musical score is a set of instructions telling the performer how to select which of 10 instruments/sounds to use.

Your turn!



Head into your garden or your local park and see how many sounds you can find made from natural materials. Sticks, logs, feathers, cones, decking, garden benches, seed pods.... Choose 6 of them.

Here's some I collected from my garden plus an instrument I have made from seed pods.

Composer John Cage asks the performer in *Child of Tree* to use chance procedure called *I ching* to decide what order to play his sounds. Instead of *I ching*, number your sounds 1 to 6 and roll a dice to decide on the order to play your sounds.



You can make it as long or short as you like. Make different pieces then record the one you like best.

Please send the music you make to learning@bcmg.org.uk