



Engaging Ears with a 'Sonic Engagement' Box.



Shouting rarely engages listeners. It may, at best, bring reluctant listeners to attention but the message gets lost and is not 'owned' by the listeners. So why not 'Edu-tain' the potential listener with some weird and wonderful sound-play?

How To Make a 'Sonic Engagement' Box

Content Ideas:

- Cloak or fabric
- Whirly Tubes
- High pitched sounds
- Low pitched sounds
- Silly Noises
- Very unusual noises
- Similar sound-makers
- Shocking Sound-makers
- Home-made, collected or found Sound-Makers.

How you might use your 'Sonic Engagement' box:-

Select an unusual sound-maker (I use whirly tubes lots) - the tone should cut through most mayhem in an instant. Play a little 'tune' on them - this can create a high level of engagement, attention, curiosity and focus.

- Next, cloak yourself or a small box in order to hide the sound-makers. Ask the listeners to decide what's making the sound under the gown.
- Choose your sound and play it hidden behind the Sound-Shroud [fabric/gown] Ask: "Did this make the sound? [show a different instrument than the selected sound.] Finally, play the instrument that you initially selected. Watch the faces!

- Repeat the activity several times over. Everyone can succeed at this.
- Now, have listeners 'unroll' their ears 3 times top to bottom as in the 'Ears a Balance' activity - so to 'switch' on enhanced listening skills/awareness.
- Repeat the activity. By now, you should have many listeners who are engaged, participating, enjoying, curious, and developing listening skills simultaneously.

Here's a simple sample from Let'sPlayMusic



You don't have to do anything posh.

You can see here that these things will all make different sounds when inside their containers.

Your box can be big or small.

Warning: always ensure your contents are safe for very little children who like to explore with their mouth!

You don't even need a box - though shoeboxes are good - you can use any container but do make it special somehow...

Have fun and make lots of them!

Stay Tuned!

Craig