

# The 'Tap Tap box' listening activity.

## **Why?**

Phonics is the process of learning to read and write using letter sounds. However, before children reach this point, there are a number of pre requisite skills to learn. Early phonics teaching focuses on developing children's listening skills.

Experiencing a wide range of listening activities and sound making opportunities (for example, singing and saying rhymes, making and listening to music, painting and pretend play) before beginning to learn about letter sounds, is essential in order for children to take the first important steps towards reading and writing.

## **How?**

The 'Tap Tap Box' activity is just one of the ways we can encourage children to focus on a sound, through anticipation and a simple repetitive song.

It is easy to replicate at home, just find an old container or shoe box that can be decorated. Use the sound making objects that are in the drawstring bag, however, the contents can be changed and it is a good idea to do this to keep your child interested. Anything that makes a noise can be used. Try loud and quiet sounds, or high and low. Be as creative as you like.

