SPARK: Simple Play Adaptations to Reference for Kids

Ring Around Bells

(Adapted Music Kit 2 – EC COE)

Description:	Image:
The Ring Around Bells is a musical toy that can accommodate children with a variety of motor challenges to engage in musical play. This toy can be activated to spin the bells in three different ways, which include 1) pressing the attached yellow switch on the base, 2) pushing the bells around by hand, or 3) connecting and activating a switch of your choice to the device switch port. When activated, the precision-tuned bells will spin and play the scale. The Ring Around Bells are 9"L x 9"W x 9.5"H and weigh 3.5 lbs. The device requires 5 AA alkaline batteries.	 Purchasing Information Demo Video User's Manual

Who Might Benefit?

Those who…

- Have motor limitations and may find it difficult to engage in typical musical instrument play.
- Need multi-sensory opportunities to engage in play due to limited attending or engagement skills.

Why Use?

Provides an opportunity to…

- Develop music appreciation
- Engage in sensory exploration
- Enhance the development of auditory skills
- Engage in multi-sensory cause & effect activities
- Participate in grasping and hand-eye coordination activities.

Instructions for Use:	Adaptation Ideas:
Environmental Considerations • The Ring Around Bells device is noisy, so it may not be suitable for quiet classroom environments. **Positioning** • The Ring Around Bells is typically used on a flat surface, such as a table or wheelchair	**Optional Additional Materials/Supplies** • Velcro • Dycem **Stabilize It** • The Ring Around Bells could be stabilized by adding Velcro to the bottom of the device and also to the table surface, or using non-skid

tray, while the child is seated in a chair or on the floor.

Alternate Positioning

- The child may use the Ring Around Bells in various other positions, such as lying on their belly, side-lying, kneeling, standing, etc. If the external switch is used, it is important to make sure the child is positioned with the switch for unobstructed view of the Ring Around Bells.

Basic Play/Use

- The Ring-Around Bells requires 5 AA cell batteries. Use alkaline batteries only (e.g., Duracell or Energizer brand). Do not use rechargeable batteries or any other type of batteries because they supply lower voltage, and the unit will not perform properly. Never mix old and new batteries or different brands or types.
- To install the batteries turn the unit over and remove the battery cover screw. Next, slide the cover off to reveal the battery compartment. Install the batteries following proper battery polarity. Slide covers back and replace screws.
- Turn the ON/OFF switch to ON.
- The Ring Around Bells has a built-in switch on the front of the device; depressing the switch will start the bells moving. If the switch is released, the bells will stop.
- The bells can also be moved by hand by turning the carousel.
- The Ring Around Bells can also be activated by an external switch. Connect any external switch via the jack located on the back of the unit. The Ring Around Bells is equipped with a 1/8-inch jack for use with switches with a 1/8-inch plug. Make sure that your switch is plugged in all the way. There should be no gap.
- When the external switch is pressed, the Ring Around Bells will only remain on while your switch continues to be activated. If the

matting such as Dycem so it doesn't scoot away from the user.

Contain It

- The Ring Around Bells could be positioned in a box or tray to help contain it from moving.

Add Sensory Cues

- No additional sensory cues are suggested for this toy. However, the switch attached to the device could be enhanced with different textures, color caps, or picture symbols/words to indicate the function of the device.

Communication Support

- A communication board could be developed to support the function of Ring Around Bells play. Vocabulary may include: play, more, music, help, stop, too loud, louder, too soft, quiet, etc.

child is unable to sustain pressure on the switch, a Switch Latch Timer could be used with the external switch. When attached to the external switch, this would allow the Ring Around Bells to continue to play after the switch is released. To turn off the Ring Around Bells, the switch would be depressed again. Switch Latch Timers are available for loan in the OCALI Lending Library in the Switch Connection kit. • The bell's position can be changed on the carousel to make different tones. In the center of each bell is a Phillips head screw. Removing the screw will allow you to pull the bell out and change its position. Replace the screw and tighten with a screwdriver. Do not over-tighten. Bells are numbered so you can return them to the factory position. Extended Play/Use • Can be used in a music class as a part of a percussion section or as an additional instrument in a band. • Can be used as a sound effect for a story in a book or a play. Play/Use with Others • The Ring Around Bells is intended to be used by one student however, it could be used in a turn-taking activity among 2 or more students. • The Ring Around Bells could also be used as one of several musical instruments played by children in a small band.	

Additional Considerations:

- Only use Alkaline batteries. Do not use rechargeable batteries or any other type of batteries, because they supply lower voltage and the unit will not perform properly.
- Do not submerge the device in water as it will damage the electrical components.
- Do not use abrasive cleaners on the device.

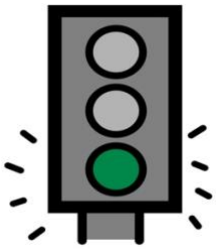
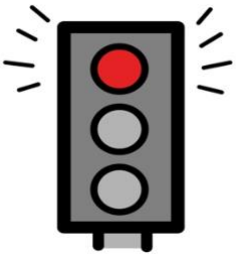
Additional Resources:

- Special Education Resources: Adapting Musical Instruments for Access to All - YouTube video highlighting how to adapt standard classroom musical instruments for all children. It also contains ideas for how musical instruments can be used for various purposes other than creating music (e.g., gross motor and fine motor skill development).

Ohio Early Learning Standards

- CD: Artistic Engagement and Expression: Expresses self creatively through music and dance. (1.b.).
- SC: Science Inquiry and Application: Develops the ability to reason about cause and effect. (1.b.).

Words to Encourage Play/Use

Push 	Music 	Bell 
Go 	Stop 	Play 
On 	Off 	

Adapted from: Haugen's Modes for Adapting Toys based on materials from the "Let's Play" Project at the University of Buffalo

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