Listen to the PJ Library Musical CD

Toot the Horn! (4s)
By Billy Jonas Band

About the artists/album
Billy Jonas has made innovative use of “found objects.” He helps audiences discover the music within common items … and within themselves. Billy uses the rhythm of words, the body, and instruments to interpret Jewish text and music. In “Tongo-Oshe Shalom” the mouth becomes a rhythm instrument.

Discover new ways to use Jewish music in the classroom

- Early humans were inspired to make music by the feel of their heartbeat and the rhythm of breathing. Scientists believe that music predates language. How can the children in your class use their bodies as a drum to accompany a song, such as “God is In” or “Hollow Bamboo.”
- French composer Claude Debussy used to say, “Music is the space between the notes.” Encourage your students to investigate the difference between silence, music, and noise using the song “Moment of Noise.” Allow children, seated at a table, to bang for 10 seconds, followed by sitting silently for ten seconds. Then teach a simple rhythm to tap out on the table following the rhythm of the song.

Music at home

LISTEN to the PJ Library musical CD
Toot the Horn!
By Billy Jonas Band
Billy Jonas uses found objects and unusual rhythmic instruments and lyrics to interpret Jewish text and music. His music is a Jewish combination of Stomp and Bobby McFerrin.

DO fun stuff at home
Kitchen Band
Gather some kitchen storage containers, wooden spoons, and any kitchen objects that can take a beating. Play an upbeat song, such as “T’fillah” or “Pharaoh, Pharaoh” and add your rhythm into the mix!

DISCUSS Jewish values
Gratitude and the Modeh Ani
Modeh ani is a prayer of thanks traditionally said when you first wake up.
- Create a festive mood one morning by playing Billy Jonas’s “Modeh Ani.”
- Share something for which you are grateful and ask your child to add something.

PLAY PJ Library music all day long!
PJLibraryRadio.com is the home for Jewish kids’ music. Listen via the website or free Android and IOS apps.