

# THE PERCUSSION FAMILY

Any instrument that you **hit, shake, or scrape** to make sound is a **percussion instrument!**

Here are some percussion instruments you might see on stage at the Schermerhorn:

## SNARE DRUM

The snare drum is made of wood or metal, with metal wires called "**snare**s" that are stretched across the bottom of the drum.



## BASS DRUM

The bass drum is one of the **largest** and **lowest-sounding** drums in the orchestra. The bass drum is played by striking on its sides with a beater or mallet.



## XYLOPHONE

The xylophone is made of **wooden bars** which are set on a metal frame.



The xylophone is like a piano keyboard with lower-sounding bars on the left and higher-sounding bars on the right.

## CYMBALS

The cymbals consist of two large **brass plates** and are played by hitting the two plates against one another.



## TIMPANI

The timpani consist of **animal skin** stretched over a **large copper bowl**.



Timpani are also sometimes called kettledrums.

**MAKE YOUR OWN PERCUSSION INSTRUMENT** and more!

Check out our crafts and other virtual resources [HERE](#)