

Tuesday

Tambo Bamboo

Soon the plantation owners banned the slaves from playing their African drums as they were using them to communicate between plantations and to practice their African religions. So instead the plantation workers developed Tamboo Bamboo, making their music using sticks of bamboo that were available on the plantations. You can play Tamboo Bamboo music using broom handles and wooden spoons, or you can use any long and short stick. As a general rule, the broom handle is played by lifting it up and stamping the low end down on the floor (stomping) and the wooden spoon or short stick is played by striking against the end of the broom stick.

Now try the following call and response exercises. You will need a sibling or an adult

Adult/sibling: Stomp-Stomp-Click-Click

You: Stomp-Stomp-Click-Click

Adult/sibling: Stomp-Click-Stomp-Click

You: Stomp-Click-Stomp-Click

Adult/sibling: Stomp-Click-Click-Stomp

You: Stomp-Click-Click-Stomp

Now mix up your stomps and clicks and create your own stomp click patterns

Write them down or send a photograph in of you performing your stomp click patterns

In the 1930s, the petroleum industry began to make an impact on the country. Musicians started to experiment with the technique of “hammering” - shaping oil drums into tuned instruments - and by the end of the second world war, skilful tuners were able to hammer out a full chromatic scale from the 55 gallon oil drums left over from the American Navy base. These oil drums became the full steel pans used by bands we know today.

