

# OCM Education and Outreach Project Journey Log

## Sound Story

in partnership with Oxford Central Library

**During the summer of 2012 Oxford Contemporary Music (OCM) met with staff at the Oxford Central Library to discuss possible ways we could collaborate and celebrate families learning together.**

**The library mentioned that they were working towards the creation of a family learning festival during the October half-term of 2012 and we decided that this would be an ideal opportunity to pilot a music project with families.**

**Towards the end of the summer we received completed questionnaires from 25 families who all thought it was a great idea. From the feedback we received we were able to determine that a weekly 30 – 45 minute music making session for families to take part in was in high demand and that this would be something that would remain popular all year round.**

A photograph of a library session. A woman in a green cardigan is sitting on a blue sofa, gesturing with her hands while talking to a group of children and adults sitting on the floor. A woman in a beige top is sitting on the sofa next to her. In the background, there is a large yellow bulletin board with various posters and a sign that says 'STORY'. Large windows are visible on the right side of the room.

**Introduction**

**Context**

**The Story**

**Impact on  
Participants**

**Project  
Outcomes**

**Next Steps**

**We recruited music leader Emily Marshall to deliver 3 taster sessions at different times throughout the day in Oxford Central Library on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2012.**

**The project was called Sound Story and Emily developed and delivered 3 project sessions that invited participants to explore vocal sounds and singing through an existing story.**

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Project  
Outcomes

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Emily led the groups through the various stages of the project.

Participants were invited take part in:

- Introductions and icebreakers
- vocal warm ups
- Improvised conduction
- Presented with a story for stimulus
- The development of sound and music ideas
- A small performance

Oxford  
Contemporary  
Music



**One of the participants on the project was autistic. He was really engaged in the project and took a really active roll in it.**

**Here is what one parent had to say about the project:**

*"I though it was really good. My 11 month old really enjoyed it, in fact much more so than Rhyme time because it was more interactive.*

*Good time of day too- afternoons. Also liked that it wasn't too full on lots of sessions would be good in the future as I'm sure it will fill up fast once people know about it.*

*Also really like the focus musical element of it. It felt a lot more social and nice vibe to it. As a parent I find Rhyme time good but its not as friendly as this was, as everyone just comes and goes for that."*

## Quotes from participants

I thought it was really good. My 11 mark old really enjoyed it - in fact, much more so than Rhyme Time because it was more interactive. Good time of day too - afternoon 5. Also liked that it wasn't too full - so lots of sessions would be good in the future as I'm sure it will fill up fast once people know about it. Also, really

liked the focused musical element of it. It felt a lot more social and a nice vibe to it. As a parent I find Rhyme Time good but it's not as friendly as this was; as everyone just comes & goes for that.

"I think it was  
fun"

Rufus (aged 4)

Thank you very much.  
We enjoyed the song &  
singing HYA HYA. & we liked  
having drums.

## Quotes from participants

Lovely activity we stumbled  
on by accident. Great to have  
something children could participate  
in. My son really enjoyed it.  
P. Webster

We've been to a story tale with  
Emily and we loved it.  
we would have loved  
to do it again  
and again...  
Liat and Mika  
and Jonathan

Really loved the  
sound effects and  
singing.  
Thank you very much 😊

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**Audio Clips Created**

A woman with dark hair, wearing a green cardigan over a white top, stands and presents to a group of children sitting on a colorful, patterned rug. In the background, a large yellow bulletin board is covered with various posters and photos, including one that says 'STORY LAB' and another with 'OPA'. The setting appears to be a bright library or community room with large windows on the right.

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**The pilot project Story Sounds proved to be a success.**

**Our Next step is to apply for the city councils small funding grant to fund some regular activity at the library.**

**We hope to use this funding to not only run sessions at the central library but to expand into the other smaller libraries in places like, Cowley, Blackbird Leys, Headington, Marston and Summer Town.**

**We submitted a funding bid to the city council on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2012 to start the next phase of families learning with OCM.**

Thank you for reading  
the Sound Story  
Project Journey Log