

# Finding out about .....



Have you ever met Pod and Dusty?



Dusty and Pod live far away in a distant galaxy where there is a far distant planet.

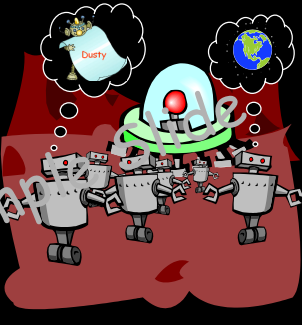


The two friends often set off in their spacecraft to visit the planet Earth.

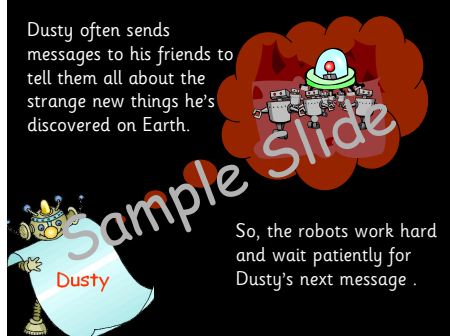


They've discovered lots of very interesting things about planet Earth!

At home - on the far distant planet - lots of little robots work hard in their space craft factories and wait for messages from their robot friend Dusty.



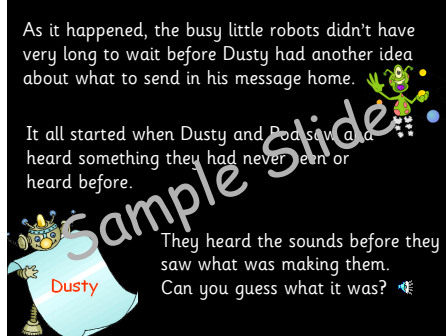
Dusty often sends messages to his friends to tell them all about the strange new things he's discovered on Earth.



So, the robots work hard and wait patiently for Dusty's next message.

As it happened, the busy little robots didn't have very long to wait before Dusty had another idea about what to send in his message home.

It all started when Dusty and Pod saw and heard something they had never seen or heard before.



They heard the sounds before they saw what was making them. Can you guess what it was?

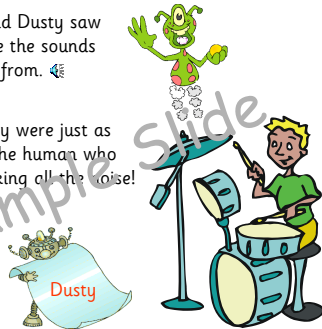
The sounds were coming from inside a building. The door was wide open so Pod and Dusty peeped inside.

The sounds kept changing...



Then, Pod and Dusty saw exactly where the sounds were coming from.

Pod and Dusty were just as surprised as the human who had been making all the noise!



The human told them that he was a drummer and the sounds were made by his drums.

He showed them some more sounds that his drums could make...



Dusty had lots of questions going round in his head.

What is a drum?

How do drums work?

How do drums make different sounds?



The drummer said that he would try to answer all of Dusty's questions.

Dusty listened very carefully because he'd already decided that he would write his next report about his new discovery - drums.



The drummer explained what a drum is and he told them how drums make sound.

He told them about the different sounds that drums can make and how he made the sounds with his drum kit.



He asked them if they had ever seen a marching band and told them that marching bands often use drums.

Then he told them about all the different shapes and sizes that drums can be.

Dusty and Pod were fascinated!

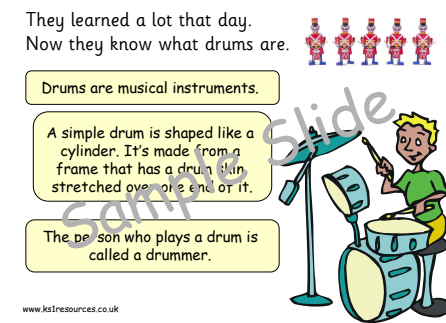


They learned a lot that day. Now they know what drums are.

Drums are musical instruments.

A simple drum is shaped like a cylinder. It's made from a frame that has a drum skin stretched over one end of it.

The person who plays a drum is called a drummer.



They also knew how to make sounds with a drum.

Drums are part of a family of instruments called percussion instruments.

Drums make sounds when they are hit or tapped using hands, drumsticks, or a special beater.

When the drum skin is hit or tapped it wobbles - that means that the skin vibrates and makes a sound.



And they knew why different drums made different sounds.

Drums come in lots of different shapes and sizes.

Drums make different sounds because of their shape, the materials they are made from and the way they are hit.



Hitting a drum harder or softer will change the sound it makes.

A small drum has a high sound and a big drum has a low sound.

Bongos are two drums that are joined together. They make different sounds because one drum is smaller than the other.

Dusty decided he'd send a report to his robot friends and tell them all about drums.



He thought he might even send them a drum to play with!

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What do you think he'll put in his report?



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