

Métis Songs and Spoons Activity:

The Métis are famous for their fiddle music. Fiddles were introduced to the Métis by the Scots and French. Métis instruments, however, were more often made than purchased, since maple and birch woods were more readily available than the cash to purchase complete instruments. Most often the sound of the Métis fiddle is accompanied by the clap of sound from spoons and the drumming rhythms derived from a large tin pan. It was also common for the performer to provide rhythm by using his or her heels.



Materials: spoons and music

How to play metal spoons: Hold two spoons in one hand; the backs of the spoons should be facing each other, and there should be one finger separating the spoons as you hold them.

With the spoons in hand, hold them over one leg. With the other empty hand, hold it over the hand with the spoons. Gently, hit the spoons alternatively between the leg and the open hand.

This is a very helpful link for a lesson in playing spoons:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ERU7VI4LGM>

Songs – the spoons can be played along to these tunes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Yvg0r31UFI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AjEIVO9Xitk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iOBnkLSIVr4>

¹ Lee, y. (2020). Music & Dance. Retrieved 12 June 2020, from <http://www.louisrielinstitute.com/music-a-dance.php>

² La T'chite Shoppe. (2020). Retrieved 12 June 2020, from <https://store.etchiboy.com/?s=musical+spoons>