

Sounds of Our Singapore

An activity of "Zubir Said: the man who loved music – and his country".

Read the article, "Zubir Said: the man who loved music — and his country" (page 12, *What's Up* July 2025). Aside from music, there are many sounds around us at all times. This activity celebrates SG60 by creating music using everyday sounds! Work in small groups.

1. For a week, record 60 different sounds that you hear around you. The sounds can be from your home, school, neighbourhood, or MRT stations, buses, hawker centres, food courts, and anywhere else you go to.

Examples of sounds: chopsticks clacking against each other during a meal, someone sweeping the corridor outside your classroom, the MRT door closing, bird calls, ceiling fans spinning, laughter, thunder, rain, etc.

Jot them down in the attractive log sheet on the next page.

2. Highlight TEN of your most meaningful or favourite sounds. Reflect on them using the following prompts:

- Which sounds bring back fond memories?
- Which sounds make you feel proud to be a Singaporean?
- Which sounds do you hear nearly every day?
- Which sounds might someone from overseas might find uniquely Singaporean?
- Which sounds are disappearing or rare to hear now?

3. Share your responses with your group.

4. Turn your ten favourite sounds into a creative piece to celebrate SG60. Choose one of the following ways to do so.

- **Option A: Sound Collage.** Combine your selected sounds into a 60-second audio tribute. You can use GarageBand, CapCut or any other appropriate app of your choice. Create a poster showing where the sounds came from (e.g. a collage of sketches, pictures, icons, etc).
- **Option B: Poem or Sound Story.** Write a poem or creative piece inspired by your selected sounds. For instance, you can write a narrative poem, a journal entry, a descriptive piece, or a short story that includes the selected sounds

5. Share your creations to celebrate SG60!

Use page 2 for your list of 60 sounds →

60 SG sounds

