

Resource: 'Noise-O-Meter'	
Explanation The Noise-O-Meter is a simple resource which helps to control the noise level of children in your setting. It is made up of a piece of semi-circular shaped card that is split into three 'pizza' shaped pieces – one green, one yellow and one red. A blue arrow is attached to the card so that it can pivot and point to each colour. The green part of the Noise-O-Meter indicates that the noise level in the setting is good. However, if the arrow is moved to the yellow part, then the noise level is getting a little too loud and the children in the setting need to lower their voices. If the arrow is moved to point to the red part, then this means that the noise level is unacceptable and the children must calm their voices immediately. A change in the noise level results in a swing of the arrow back to yellow and ultimately green.	
Handy Hints <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always have the arrow pointing to green when the children come into the setting – start a session on a positive! However, if the children do come in noisily, it is only right to show them how their noise does not merit a green marker on the Noise-O-Meter scale. • If you move the arrow to the yellow or red part of the Noise-O-Meter, always ask the children to explain why they think you have moved it there. • As soon as you notice some improvement in the noise level of the children, then move the arrow back towards the green. • If you want to manage the noise volume of a group of children, then make a smaller version of the Noise-O-Meter just for them; ensure that this is displayed close by to where they are working. 	
Advantages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This resource is a great way of controlling noise levels without you having to raise your voice. • The Noise-O-Meter is a good way of supporting children's understanding of the importance of colour, i.e. traffic lights, referee cards. • The resource can be very easily made. • Children respond very quickly to the resource, particularly if you highlight the change in the reading to one child; they will very quickly pass on the message to the other children for you! 	Adaptations For younger children, you might only want to have the green and yellow parts on your Noise-O-Meter to make it easier for them to understand. For older children, you might include percentages around the edge of the Noise-O-Meter to promote mathematical readings of scales. Parents and carers can easily use this strategy at home to manage the noise levels of children at home.
Questions for Consideration Would you want your Noise-O-Meter to be operated by the children or just by yourself? Why so? What size would you make your Noise-O-Meter? What difference do you think the size would make if using this with individuals/120 pupils?	 A black and white photograph of a woman with long hair and glasses, wearing a dark blazer over a light-colored shirt. She is holding a semi-circular card with three colored sections (green, yellow, red) and a blue arrow pointing upwards. The card is the Noise-O-Meter resource described in the text.
Linked Resources 10cm Ruler – See page 32 Whistle or Bell – See page 31	