

CHIMALONG

The Chimalong is a great-sounding metallophone, consisting of eight tubes suspended in a foam holder. It comes packaged in a sturdy plastic carrying case with two mallets and a songbook and can be easily played by children over age three. Fully assembled as a one octave instrument in the key of C, the Chimalong comes with an extra B-flat tube, allowing it to be converted to the key of F. Each tube is electronically tuned to the highest standards.

The three-tiered system of musical instruction allows children of various ages and stages of development to enjoy learning to play the Chimalong. Its tubes are coded by color and by number, as well as by traditional music notation. The melodies in the songbook employ the same coding system as the instrument, thus enabling a child to play a tune by simply matching colors or numbers. Eventually, the traditional notation can be integrated.

The Chimalong has won the Parents' Choice Gold Award (1986) and Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Best Toy Award (1994). It has been recommended for its educational value by the late Jim Henson and musical artists John Sebastian, Marilyn Horne, Andre Watts and Peter Schickele.