



Science Sound

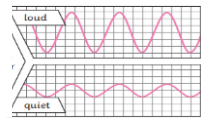


Year 4
Spring Term

Key Learning



Sound is a type of energy. Sounds are created by vibrations. The louder the sound the bigger the vibration.

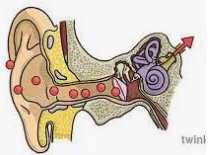


The size of the vibration is called the amplitude. Louder sounds have a larger amplitude, and quieter sounds have a smaller amplitude.

Pitch is a measure of how high or low a sound is. A whistle being blown creates a high-pitched sound. A rumble of thunder is an example of a low-pitched sound.

You can change the pitch of a sound in different ways depending on the type of instrument you are playing. For example, if you are playing a xylophone, striking the smaller bars with the beater causes faster vibrations and so a higher pitched note. Striking the larger bars causes slower vibrations and produces a lower note.

Sound can travel through solids, liquids and gases. Sound travels as a wave, vibrating the particles in the medium it is travelling in. Sound cannot travel through a vacuum.



Inside your ear, the vibrations hit the eardrum and are then passed to the middle and then the inner ear. They are then changed into electrical signals and sent to your brain. Your brain tells you that you are hearing a sound.

Key Vocabulary

Vibration	A quick movement back and forth.
Sound Wave	Vibrations travelling from a sound source.
volume	The loudness of a sound.
amplitude	The size of a vibration. A larger amplitude = a louder sound
pitch	How low or high a sound is.
ear	An organ used for hearing
soundproof	To prevent sound from passing through.
absorb sound	To take in sound energy. Absorbent materials have the effect of muffling sound.
eardrum	A part of the ear which is a thin, tough layer of tissue that is stretched out like a drum skin. It separates the outer ear from the middle and inner ear. Sound waves make the eardrum vibrate

Working Scientifically

Setting up practical investigations

Using equipment safely

Using results to draw simple conclusions