

Year 4: Sound

Key Question: What are sounds and how do they travel?

What should I already know?



Hearing is one of my 5 senses



Sounds can be combined using musical instruments

Key Vocabulary



Vibration A movement backwards and forwards.



Sound wave Vibrations travelling from a sound source.



Source The beginning; where something comes from.



Volume The loudness of a sound.



Amplitude The size of a vibration. A larger amplitude = a louder sound.



Pitch How high or low a sound is.



Ear An organ used for hearing.



Soundproof To prevent sound from passing.



Absorb sound To take in sound energy. Absorbent materials have the effect of muffling sound.



Eardrum A part of the ear which is a thick, tough layer of tissue that is stretched out like a drum skin. Sound waves make the eardrum vibrate.

Key Knowledge

Sound is a type of energy. Sounds are made when objects **vibrate**. The vibration makes the air around the object vibrate and the air vibrations enter your ear. You hear them as sounds.

You cannot always see the vibrations, but if something is making a sound, some part of it is always vibrating.



Sound waves can travel through solids (such as metal, stone and wood), liquids (such as water) and gases (such as air).

Sounds are made when objects **vibrate**. When an object vibrates, the air around it vibrates too. This vibrating air can also be known as sound waves. The sound waves travel to the **ear** and make the **eardrums** vibrate. Messages are sent to the brain which recognizes the vibrations as sounds.

