Knowledge Organiser – Science – Sound – Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) – Spring 1 2025

Careers connected to sound: audiologist, sound engineer

The Acorn Partnership
Marston Montgomery Primary School
Long Lane C of E Primary School

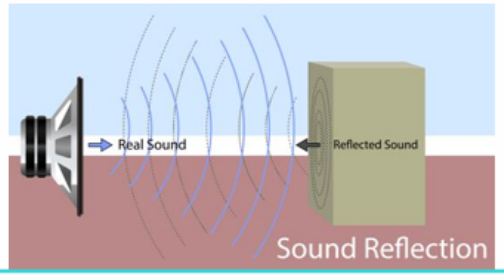
What I already know

- No prior learning in the National Curriculum on sound
- I can identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense and know that the ears are associated with hearing

Sticky Learning

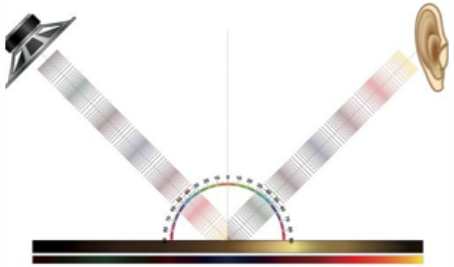
How sounds are made and travel

When objects vibrate, a sound is made. The vibration makes the air around the object vibrate and the air vibrations enter your ear. These are called sound waves. If an object is making a sound, a part of it is vibrating, even if you cannot see the vibrations. Sound waves travel through a medium (such as air, water, glass, stone, and brick).



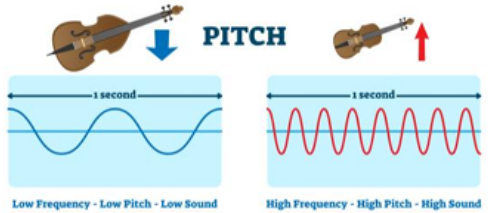
How do we hear?

The sound waves travel to the ear and make the eardrums vibrate. Messages are sent to the brain which recognises the vibrations as sounds.



Pitch

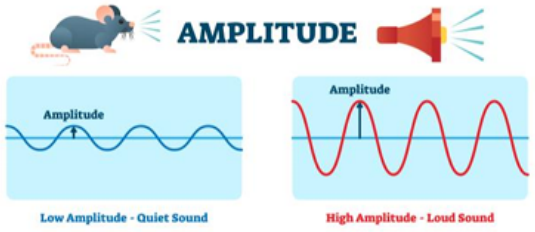
The pitch of a sound is how high or **low** it is. A squeak of mouse has a high pitch A roar of a lion has a low pitch.



A high pitch sound is made because it has a high frequency. The sound source vibrates many times a second.

Volume

The volume of a sound is how **loud** or **quiet** it is. Quieter sounds have a smaller **amplitude** and less energy (**smaller vibrations**) and louder sounds have a bigger amplitude and more energy. The **closer** we are to a sound source the louder it will be. A train arriving at a station sounds loud. The further away from a sound the fainter it will be. A train in the distance sounds quieter.



Core Learning

1. Identify how sound is made

2. Explore how vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear

3. Explore sound insulation

4. Explore volume

5. Explore pitch

6. Explore sounds

The Acorn Partnership
Marston Montgomery Primary School
Long Lane C of E Primary School

Knowledge Organiser: Year 4 - Sound

Before and After Test

How does sound travel?	before	after
In a curvy line		
In a straight line		
As a series of vibrations		
By making a noise		

The volume of sound is measured in...	before	after
decibels		
centimetres		
kilograms		
miles		

Sounds gets louder... (tick 2)	before	after
as we move further away from the source		
as we move closer to the source		
the less energy there is when creating the sound		
the more energy there is when creating the sound		

The origin of the sound is called the...	before	after
noise		
source		
vibration		
frequency		

The pitch of a sound describes...	before	after
how fast or slow a sound is		
how loud or quiet a sound is		
how low or high a sound is		

When a sound hits the ear...	before	after
nothing vibrates		
the eardrums vibrate		
the whole ear vibrates		
the brain vibrates		

Sound can travel through...

	Before	After
the air		
water		
the floor		
all of the above		

A pupil blows through two different length straws. Which statement is true

	Before	After
The shorter straw will make a higher-pitched sound.		
The shorter straw will make a louder sound.		
The longer straw will make a higher-pitched sound.		
The longer straw will make a louder sound.		

Science (Rocket) Words

Word	Meaning
vibration	particles moving very quickly
medium	a substance, such as air, water or a solid
source	the start of something
energy	the power to make something work, move or grow
materials	anything used in making something or building
reflect	bounce back from a surface
volume	how loud or quiet something is
decibels	the unit to measure the loudness of sound
pitch	how high or low a sound is
instruments	objects used to play music
sound source	the object that started the sound
particles	tiny pieces that make up something larger