

Year 4 - Sound

Key Vocabulary

Sound	anything that people or animals can hear with their ears.
source	the start or cause of something.
vibrate	to move back and forth very rapidly and steadily.
matter	all things that take up space (solids, liquids, and gases).
pitch (high, low)	quality of a sound created by the speed of vibrations; the degree of highness or lowness of a tone.
volume	quantity or power of a sound created by the strength of vibrations; degree of loudness.
faint	Lacking loudness or strength; a quiet sound, barely heard.
insulation	material that is used to stop the passage of electricity, heat, or sound

Did you know?

The ear contains the smallest bones in your entire body.
The bones are called: Malleus, Incus, Stapes.

VIBRATIONS

Sound is made when an object vibrates and therefore causes the air around it to vibrate too. These vibrations are carried to your ear for you to hear them. Sound vibrations can travel through different materials:

SOLIDS: metals, stone, wood

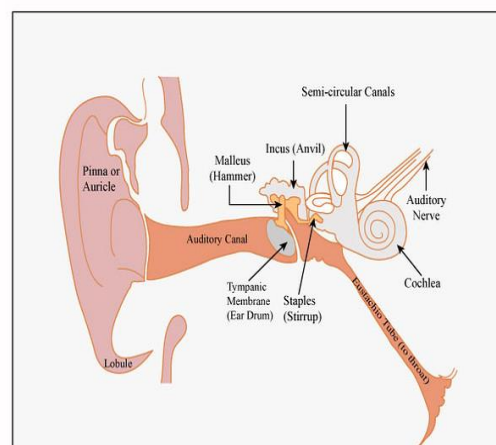
LIQUIDS: water

GASES: air

The loudness (volume) of the sound depends on the strength (size) of vibrations which decreases as they travel through different matter.

PITCH

The pitch of a sound is how high or how low it sounds. A high pitch has a high sound and a low pitch has a low sound. Smaller objects usually produce higher pitched sounds. Larger objects usually make lower pitched sounds. Faster vibrations make pitches high and slower vibrations make pitches low.



HOW WE HEAR - Sound waves travel through solids, liquids and gases to our ear drum causing it to vibrate. These vibrations are then transmitted to tiny bones and fluid in our inner ear. The movement of this fluid carries messages to our brains allowing us to hear (sense) the sound. Sound cannot travel through a vacuum (empty of matter).