We already know: hearing is one of our five senses.

Sound

Year 4 Science Knowledge Organiser



What makes sound?

- Sound is made when something vibrates.
- Vibrate means to move back and forth.
- We can sometimes see or feel an object vibrating.





How does sound travel?

- Vibrations travel through solids, liquids and gases to our ears.
- Sound needs a material to travel through. It cannot travel through a vacuum.
- Sounds usually become fainter as we move farther from the source.



Volume: loud or quiet

- Bigger vibrations make louder sounds.
- Smaller vibrations make quieter sounds.
- Sound level is measured in decibels (dB).





Pitch: high or low

- Faster vibrations make a higher pitch.
- Slower vibrations make a lower pitch.
- A mouse squeaks with a high pitch. A lion roars with a low pitch.





Words to remember

Source:	where a sound starts.
Vibration:	a movement back and forth.
Medium:	a material sound travels through.
Volume:	how loud or quiet a sound is.
Pitch:	how high or low a sound is.
Insulation:	material that reduces sound passing through.
Frequency:	the number of vibrations each second.

Be a sound scientist!



- Make a shaker from recycled materials.



- Try a string telephone with two pots and taut string.



- Take a sound walk. Describe and compare what you hear.

Protect your ears from very loud sounds.