



Can You See a Sound?

Can you see the sound of a name?

Can you see a sound?

Can you taste a sound?

Can you feel a sound?

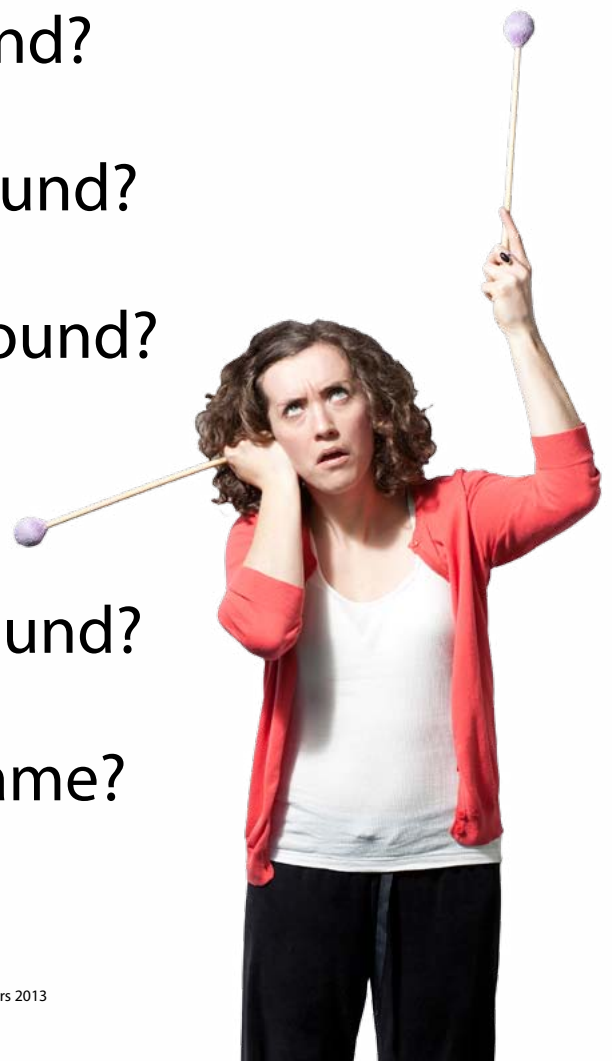
Can you smell a sound?

Can you throw a sound?

Hey Maisie!

Can you catch a sound?

Can you catch a name?








Teachers' Guide: Can You See A Sound?

Topic Sound and Hearing	National Curriculum Reference Year 4 'Sound' (2014 onwards)
Learning Outcomes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To describe how an object makes a sound by identifying the source of the vibrations • To make observations of vibrations by hearing, feeling and seeing • To create a 'homemade' instrument to make a particular type of sound 	
Poem Link	
<p><i>Can you see a sound?... 'Can you see a sound?' ... 'Can you feel a sound?'</i></p> <p>Throughout this activity children can think about these two particular lines of the poem and use them to support their observations.</p>	

Activities

Activity Type	Running Notes	Resources
 Quick Fire	<p>Show the children the instrument pictures (slide 1).</p> <p>For each instrument, ask the children "What makes the sound?" and "How does it make the sound?"</p>	
 Hands On	<p>Ask the children to try out the mini experiments (see below for details) and then to record their observations in a table (slide 2).</p> <p>The children should describe what they can hear, feel and see.</p> <p>Care should be taken when striking the tuning forks. This should be carried out by, or closely supervised by, an adult.</p>	<p>Drum (with a spoon full of rice placed on the drum skin) plus a beater</p> <p>A beaker of water plus tuning fork</p> <p>Ping pong ball suspended with a cotton thread plus a tuning fork</p> <p>Bowl of water plus pebbles to drop into it</p>
 Extended	<p>Read through "The Rhythm of Life" poem (or other selected poem(s)). Encourage the children to think about what types of sound they could use to bring this poem to life (either in performance or recording). Alternatively use this as an opportunity for children to create their own poems.</p> <p>Group the children and encourage cooperation within each group to construct a suitable range of 'homemade' instruments.</p> <p>Facilitate the children in either performing or recording the poem with sound effects.</p>	<p>A selection of 'junk' materials such as boxes, tubs, tubes, straws, elastic bands, string, biscuit tins etc</p> <p>Glue, scissors, sticky tape etc.</p>



Science Background

Quick Fire Activity

The strings on a stringed instrument, such as a guitar, vibrate when plucked. This makes the surrounding air particles vibrate. These vibrations pass between the air particles until they reach our ears. Percussion instruments, like drums, vibrate when hit. With woodwind instruments it is the air inside that vibrates. These vibrations can be created in different ways. With reed instruments, such as saxophones, it is the reeds that vibrate. With flutes and recorders it is the passing of air across a sharp edge that causes the initial vibration.

Hands On Activity

Drum – when the drum is hit by the beater the vibration of the drum skin should make the rice grains jump in the air. The children may also want to touch the drum skin to feel what happens when it is hit by the beater. A cymbal and beater would also work well in allowing the children to feel a vibration.

Tuning fork and water – when the prongs of the tuning fork that has been struck are placed into the water, the vibrations should make the water splash. The vibrations themselves cannot be seen but the effect of them can be. If the tuning fork is struck again the children could touch it in order to feel the vibrations.

Tuning fork and ping pong ball - when one prong of the tuning fork that has been struck lightly touches the suspended ping pong ball, the ball should move away.

Bowl of water and pebble - when a pebble is dropped into the water the children will see ripples as the vibrations pass through the water. If they listen, they can also hear the sound made.

Extended Activity

Different materials produce different sounds when they vibrate so the children will first need to experiment. They can then select appropriate materials and ways to make them vibrate (hitting, blowing, plucking etc).



What makes the sound?





What do you observe?

Experiment	What did you hear?	What did you see?	What did you feel?
Drum			
Beaker			
Ping pong ball			
Pebbles			



More Science Activity



Perform a poem with your own 'Homemade Orchestra'

