



Year 4 Summer - How does sound reach our ears?

Key Vocabulary

amplitude	A measure of the strength of a sound wave. The size of the vibration energy
sound energy	The type of energy that we can hear frequency.
insulation	An organ in the digestive system where food is broken down with stomach acid and by being churned around.
medium	A material that allows the transfer of energy from one place to another, eg solids, liquids and gases pitch
pitch	How high or low a sound is. It depends on the frequency of the sound
vibrations	Something moving backwards and forwards very quickly
volume	How loud or quiet a sound is. It depends on the amplitude of the sound wave
wave	A sound wave is an invisible wave which moves through different medium

- Sound travels in waves in all directions away from a source.
- Sound can travel through different materials, but travels at different speeds in solids, liquids and gases.
- An echo is a reflected sound wave.

Musical Instruments



Guitar

What vibrates?
The strings.

How to play it?
Pluck or **strike** the strings.



Violin

What vibrates?
The strings.

How to play it?
Pluck the strings or use the bow.



Drum

What vibrates?
The skin.

How to play it?
Strike it,



Recorder

What vibrates?
The air inside the recorder

How to play it?
Blow into it.

- We can describe sounds by talking about their pitch and volume. Pitch describes how high or low a sound is and volume explains whether it is loud or quiet.



- When objects vibrate, a sound is made. The vibrations make the air particles 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 is vibrating, even if you cannot see the vibrations.