



The Facts of Sound The Ear and Sound Sound Vocabulary Musical Instruments and Sound

The Facts

Sound ...

- 1. Is a form of energy produced & transmitted by vibrating matter
- 2. Travels in waves
- 3. Travels more quickly through solids than liquids or gases

The Ear

- Sound is carried to our ears through vibrating air molecules.
- Our ears take in sound waves & turn them into signals that go to our brains.
- Sound waves move through 3 parts of the ear; outer ear, middle ear, & inner ear.





Vibration

- Back and forth movement of molecules of matter
- For example,





Compression

Where molecules are being pressed together as the sound waves move through matter

- For example,
 - a wave travels through the springs just like sound waves travel through the air
 - the places where the springs are close together are like compressions in the air.

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Sound Waves



- Alternating areas of high & low pressure in the air
- ALL sound is carried through matter as sound waves
- Sound waves move out in ALL directions from a vibrating object



Wavelength & Frequency

Wavelength is the distance between one part of a wave and the same part of the

next wave



Frequency is the number of past a point in one second



Pitch



- A measure of how high or low a sound is
- Pitch depends on the frequency of a sound wave
- For example,



- Low pitch
- Low frequency
- Longer wavelength

- High pitch - High frequency - Shorter wavelength

Sonar

An instrument that uses reflected sound waves to find underwater objects
For example,





Humans use sonar to locate or map objects



Animals use sonar or echo location to find their prey; these sounds have such a high pitch or frequency that the human ear cannot hear Sound and Instruments Instruments can be played at different pitches by changing lengths of different parts.

- For example,
- Another way to make different pitches is to change the thickness of the material that vibrates.
 - For example,

A trombone's mute absorbs some of the sound waves produced, thus producing a softer note when played.



That's all folks!

