

Vocabulary Words: Wave Properties

1. Amplitude (VOLUME): Maximum distance the particles of a medium move from their resting positions, when a wave passes through. (High volume - Tall height of wave & Low volume – Short height of wave)
2. Compression: A force that tends to shorten or squeeze something, decreasing its volume.
3. Earthquake: A sudden movement of the Earth's lithosphere (its crust and upper mantle).
4. Energy: Ability to cause changes in matter (motion happens).
5. Frequency (PITCH): The amount of waves that occur in a given time. More wavelengths (closer together) means a higher pitch, while less wavelengths (farther apart) means a lower pitch.
6. Light: Electromagnetic waves that can be perceived by the human eye.
7. Longitudinal Wave: Wave in which particles of the medium vibrate in the same direction that the wave travels. Waves move back and forth.
8. Medium: A solid, liquid, or gas that wave energy passes through. Mechanical waves must have a medium to travel through.
9. Rarefaction: A decrease in density (distance between waves) and pressure in a medium, such as air, especially when caused by the passage of a wave, such as a sound wave.
10. Seismic wave: Mechanical wave created from an earthquake, can be longitudinal or transverse.
11. Source (Force): The cause of a wave or vibration.
12. Sound: Transfer of energy from a vibrating object in longitudinal waves that travel through matter.
13. Transverse: Wave in which particles of the medium vibrate at right angles to the direction that the wave travels. Waves move up and down.
14. Vibration: Energy in a wave is carried as vibrations.
15. Vacuum: Electromagnetic waves can travel through a vacuum, no air.
16. Wavelength: Distance between two corresponding points of adjacent waves, such as the distance between two adjacent crests of a transverse wave.
17. Waves: A disturbance or vibration. Waves carry energy from a source.