

Year 4 Knowledge organiser – What is sound?

How can pitch be changed?

The size and shape of an object can change the pitch of the sound it makes. Faster vibrations make the pitch higher.

low pitch

low pitch

high pitch



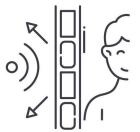
Examples of low pitch a lion's roar thunder

Examples of high pitch a mouse's squeak a child's voice



Sound insulation

 Sound can be absorbed or reflected by materials to stop sound travelling.



vibrating vocal

chords to sing

Absorbed =
taken in by an
object
Reflected =
bouncing off

an object

What is volume?

Volume = the loudness or quietness of a sound.

high pitch



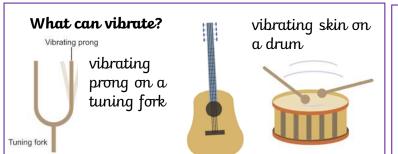
Sound gets quieter the further you are from the source of the sound because the waves get weaker.



Examples of loud sounds: sirens, alarms, shouting, drilling

Examples of quiet sounds:

whispering, bees buzzing, humming



vibrating strings on a quitar



vibrating engine in a car

How does sound travel?

- Sound needs to travel through a solid, a liquid or a gas.
- Sound can't travel when there is nothing to travel through (like in a vacuum in space).
- Sound travels in waves.
- The waves start at the vibrating object and move out in all directions.

