All About Sound



Sound is an energy that is created when objects vibrate. Vibrations are caused when something moves back and forth extremely fast. When an object

vibrates, it causes a disturbance in the surrounding air molecules. These disturbances travel through the air in a wave-like pattern and are known as a sound waves. Think about when an object hits the water and creates little ripples like small waves. This also happens in the air after the objects vibrate. The source of the vibrations can be anything from a musical instrument, voices, explosions, thunder and dogs barking. The sound waves from the vibrations enter the ear and the brain interprets them as a specific sound. When the sound waves reach our ears, they cause the ear drum to vibrate, which trigger nerves that are then interpreted by the brain to tell us what we are hearing. Different sounds have different frequencies, which is how fast the sound wave is vibrating. Lower frequency sounds have a deeper, lower sound. Higher frequency sounds have a higher pitch. Sound is also measured in decibels which is how loud the sound is. Sound is very important because it enables us to communicate with others and understand the world around us. Sound is all around us and plays a big role daily in our lives.

- 1. Read the passage.
- 2. Underline each word that you could not read.
- 3. Circle each sentence you did not understand.
- 4. Answer the questions.

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Answer according to the reading passage:

- 1. Sound is a type of:
- a. energy
- b. music
- c. wave
- 2. Vibration happens when things move:
- a. in the air
- b. in the water
- c. back and forth really fast
- 3. Sound waves from vibrations enter the:
- a. ear
- b. source
- c. soundwaves
- 4. The brain tells us the type of sound we are hearing:
- a. false
- b. true
- 5. Sound is measured by:
- a. amplitudes
- b. decibels
- c. meters

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All About Sound Open Response Questions

Open Response Questions for Thinking Skills:

- 1. Inferring
- 2. Making Connections
- 3. Summarizing
- 4. Visualizing
- From what you know about sound, explain how sound is made from a musical instrument – use the term vibrations and air waves in your answer.
- 2. Select any source of sound and explain how you are able to determine what type of sound it is.
- 3. In 2-3 sentences, summarize what this passage is about.
- 4. What images go through your mind as you think about how sound happens?