



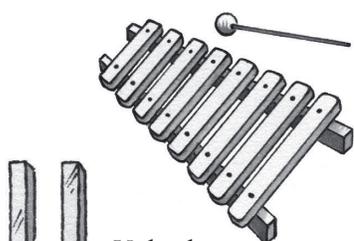
On pitch

Background knowledge

The faster an object vibrates, the higher the sound it makes. The slower an object vibrates, the lower the sound it makes. How rapidly a guitar string, drum skin, or column of air in a recorder vibrates is called its *pitch*. Pitch is one property of sound. Musical instruments and singing voices can have a high or low pitch.

Science activity

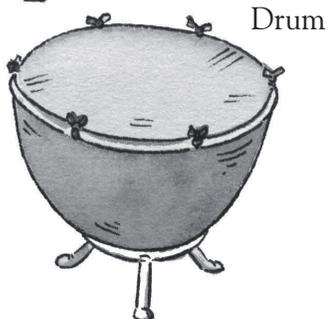
Look at these musical instruments. Draw a line to each instrument to the way you change its pitch.



Xylophone



Tuning fork



Drum

Make its strings longer or shorter.

Make the column of air longer or shorter.

Increase or reduce its size.

Change the size of its wooden bars.

Make its skin tighter or slacker.



Recorder



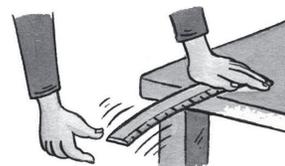
Violin

If the air column on the recorder is increased, what will happen to its pitch?

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Science investigation

Try making a musical instrument out of straws. Using a ruler, cut three straws to different lengths and tape them together in a row from longest to shortest. If you cannot blow hard enough to make a sound, ask an adult to help you.





On pitch

Background knowledge

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Science activity

Look at these musical instruments. Draw a line to each instrument to the way you change its pitch.

Make its strings longer or shorter.

Recorder

Make the column of air longer or shorter.

Violin

Increase or reduce its size.

Xylophone

Tuning fork

Change the size of its wooden bars.

Drum

Make its skin tighter or slacker.

If the air column on the recorder is increased, what will happen to its pitch?
The pitch will get lower.

Science investigation

After doing this activity, the child will see how the pitch of sound can be modified by changing the length of the vibrating area. The longer the length, the lower the pitch. The child can have fun trying to play a tune on the straws.

