

Sound

Significant Scientists

Chien-Shiung Wu



Wu was famous for designing clever, accurate experiments. She showed the importance of careful observation, fair testing, and recording results. Wu studied how particles move and interact — similar to how we study vibrations that cause sound.

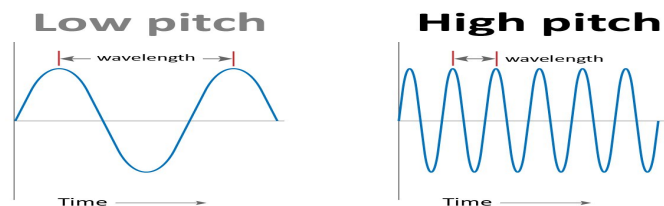
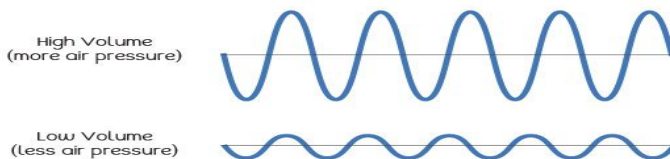
Working Scientifically Skills

Plan an enquiry.

Gather, record, classify and present data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions.

Record findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, and tables.

Report on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays or presentations of results and conclusions.



Key Knowledge

Sound is a thing that can be heard. The object that makes the sound is called a source.

When objects vibrate, a sound is made. The vibration makes the air around the object vibrate and the air vibrations enter the ear. These are called sound waves. If an object is making a sound, a part of it is vibrating, even if you cannot see the vibrations.

Sound waves travel to the ear and make the eardrum vibrate. Messages are sent to the brain which recognises the vibrations as sound.

Sound waves travel through a medium such as air, water, glass, stone, and brick.

Sound is measured in different ways.

Enquiry Skills

Identifying and classifying

Fair testing

Observing over time

Pattern seeking

Key Vocabulary

amplitude	Measures how strong a sound wave is.
decibels	Measure how loud a sound is.
frequency	Measures the number of times per second that the sound wave cycles.
vibration	Invisible waves that move very quickly.
soundwave	Invisible wave that travels through the air, water and solid objects as vibrations.
volume	How loud or quiet a sound is.
pitch	How high or low a sound is.
tone	The quality or character of a sound.
insulation	When sound waves are prevented from permeating.

