River View Primary School

Topic: Sound

What should I already know?

Strand: Physics

Hearing is one of my five senses.Sound can be produced in a lot of different of ways.		
What will I know by the end of the unit?		
What is a sound?	A thing that can be heard. The object making the sound is called the source.	
How is sound made?	 When objects vibrate, a sound is made. The vibrations make the air around the object vibrate and the air vibrations enter your ear. The air vibrations are called sound waves. If the object is making a sound, part of it is vibrating, even if you cannot see the vibrations. 	
How does sound travel?	 Sound waves travel through a medium (such as air, water, glass, stone, brick) For example, if someone is playing music next door, the sound waves can travel through the bricks in the wall. 	
pitch	 The pitch of a sound is how high or low it is. A squeak of a mouse has a high pitch. A lion's roar has a low pitch. High pitch sounds are created by short sound waves. (blue and green sound waves) Low pitched sounds are created by long sound waves. (Red sound waves) 	
volume	 The volume of a sound is how loud or quiet it is. The further away the source of a sound is, the fainter it gets. The closer a source of a sound is, the louder it will be. When a sound is created by small vibrations a quieter sound is produced. When a lot of energy is used, strong vibrations are created, and this makes a loud noise. 	

Vocabulary			
amplitude	a measure of the strength of a sound wave		
decibel	a measure of how loud a sound is		
electricity	a form of energy that can be used to power devices that produce sound		
frequency	a measure of how many times a second a sound wave repeats		
medium	something sound can travel through		
pitch	how high or low a sound is		
power	energy used to make devices create sound		
sound waves	invisible waves that travel through the air, water and solid objects as vibrations		
source	where something comes from		
transmit	to pass from one place to another		
travel	how something moves around		
vibrations	invisible waves that move quickly		
volume	how loud or quiet a sound is		

Data Handling

Choose the appropriate graphical representation from bar chart, pictogram or table to represent data when searching for patterns in pitch and volume.