

Remember  
in Year 1  
we learned:

## The senses

Year 4

## Sound

Later, you  
will learn:

### Knowledge

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will be able to:

One	Identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating.	
Two	Recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear.	
Three	Find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it.	
Four	Find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it.	
Five	Recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases.	



### Key Learning

A sound produces vibrations which travel through a medium from the source to our ears. Different mediums such as solids, liquids and gases can carry sound, but sound cannot travel through a vacuum (an area empty of matter). The vibrations cause parts of our body inside our ears to vibrate, allowing us to hear (sense) the sound.

The loudness (volume) of the sound depends on the strength (size) of vibrations which decreases as they travel through the medium. Therefore, sounds decrease in volume as you move away from the source. A sound insulator is a material which blocks sound effectively.

Pitch is the highness or lowness of a sound and is affected by features of objects producing the sounds. For example, smaller objects usually produce higher pitched sounds.

### Key Vocabulary

Sound, source, vibrate, vibration, travel, pitch (high, low), volume, faint, loud, insulation