

Topic

Our topic this term has been The Golden Age - I have loved teaching and learning about it myself, and I think you must have done as well because you've produced some wonderful pieces of work! Think back over our topic lessons, we have thought about:

1. Where and when the Golden Age occurred.
2. Why it is important to learn about the Golden Age.
3. How and why the Islamic Empire was so successful in expanding so quickly and so far.
4. What was special about Baghdad - how did it become the capital of the Islamic Empire? Do you remember making those awesome maps of Baghdad in your groups?
5. What were houses and life like in Baghdad - we pretended to be estate agents and created adverts to sell a house!
6. What food was eaten, and what clothes were worn in the Islamic Empire - we recreated recipes and thought about fashion.

There is one area that we have not yet looked at, and that is the Silk Road. The Silk Road was a trade route - a network of really long 'roads' that people in the Golden Age would have travelled to sell their wares. The Silk Road was actually around both before and long after the Islamic Golden Age, but it was a really important part of the Islamic Empire that we are studying, so it is a great idea to find out about it.

Can you research the Silk Road and create a fact file or a poster about it? Think about answering these questions:

1. What was the Silk Road?
2. Which countries did it cross?
3. How did people travel along it during the Islamic Golden Age?
4. What sort of goods did they buy and sell along it?
5. Why was the Silk Road so important?
6. What are the most interesting facts you can find out about the Silk Road?

Here are some useful websites:

https://kids.kiddle.co/Silk_Road

https://www.ducksters.com/history/islam/trade_and_commerce.php

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vn3e37VWc0k>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfe-eNq-Qyg>

This should be fun to do, and to make. Don't worry if you can't answer all the questions, what I would love is for you to find out a little bit about the Silk Road, and use that to create an interesting and colourful piece of work. Good luck - and enjoy! 😊

Science

Our last thing to investigate in our Sound unit is pitch. Pitch means how high or low a sound is. Here is a little clip to help explain what I mean:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xCqpi5Ekwiw&list=PLISNbulOQowuobSS2SMHfRCSzsOQnURG->

I would love for you to experiment with any equipment or materials you have at home to see if you can change the pitch of a sound. Here is a youtube clip of a scientist showing you a range of different ways to make some simple instruments that will help you explore pitch.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VYMRRaKMntY>

Remember to make sure to ask your adult's permission before you start using things from around the house, also make sure that you ask for help if you need to cut or use anything sharp - I don't want anyone to hurt themselves!

I'd love to see some of your instruments when we get back to school, so take your time over this project, maybe make one or two instruments then take them apart and make a different or better one. We can share what we've made, and discuss how we can change the pitch of a sound.

There are also more ideas for homemade instruments in this clip!

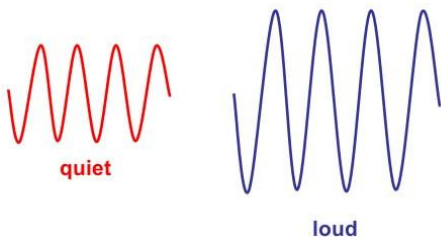
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yMLTF_0PAQw

Finally, here is your scientific explanation of what happens with the sound waves when we change the pitch of a note. Remember, loud sounds make big/tall soundwaves, quiet sounds make small/shorter soundwaves, like this:

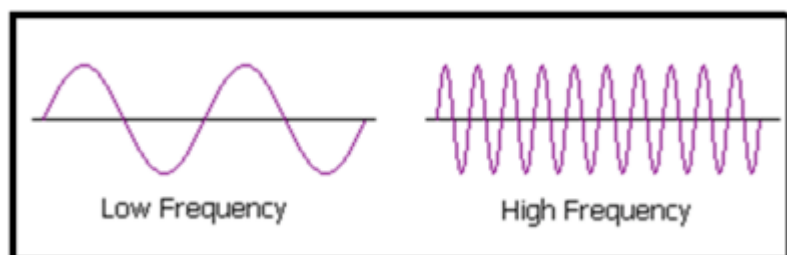
TRIPLE ONLY

Loudness

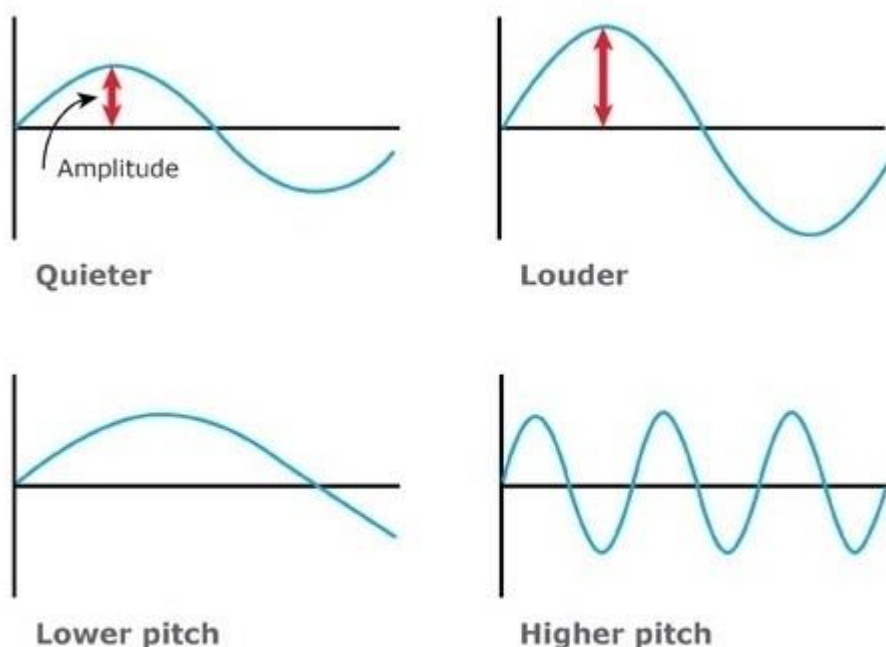
The loudness of a sound increases with the amplitude of the sound wave.



With pitch, a high note will make a faster vibration and a closer soundwave pattern (high frequency), a low note will make a slower vibration and a more spaced out soundwave pattern (low frequency):



Here they are compared all together:



Don't worry if you don't quite understand this, we will look at it again when we are all back at school. What I really want is for you to have fun experimenting and investigating with sound and pitch!