

Project glossary

air

A mixture of gases, including oxygen, that surrounds the Earth.

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brass instrument

A musical instrument made of brass or another metal that produces sounds when a player's lips vibrate in the mouthpiece, such as a tuba, trombone or cornet.

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cochlea

The spiral-shaped part inside the inner ear that turns vibrations into electrical signals.

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cochlear nerve

A nerve in the inner ear that carries electrical signals to the brain.

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decibel (dB)

A unit used to measure the volume of sound.

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ear

A body part on the outside and inside of the head used for hearing.

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ear canal

A tube that runs from the outer ear to the eardrum.

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eardrum

A thin layer of tissue inside the ear through which vibrations pass.

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gas

A material with no fixed shape and particles that are far apart.

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hearing

The ability to sense a sound using the ears.

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hertz (Hz)

A unit used to measure the pitch of a sound.



inner ear

The part of the ear inside the head that contains the cochlea.

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medium

A material, such as a solid, liquid or gas, that transfers energy from one place to another. For example, sound energy.

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muffle

To reduce the volume of sound, usually by wrapping it in a material.

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musical instrument

A device used to make music.

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liquid

A material with no fixed shape and close-together particles that slide past each other, meaning it can be poured.

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ossicles

Three tiny, linked bones inside the ear through which vibrations pass.

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particle

A single piece of matter that is too small to be seen.

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percussion

Musical instruments that produce sound when they are struck, scraped or shaken.

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pinna

The part of the ear on the outside of the head that collects sound.

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pitch

The highness or lowness of a sound.

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solid

A material with a fixed shape and particles that are tightly packed together.

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sound

Vibrations that travel in waves from a sound source through a medium to the ears.



sound source

Something which vibrates to produce sound waves, such as a musical instrument, a piece of machinery or a person’s vocal cords.

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sound wave

A pattern of vibrations created by a sound source that travels through a medium to the ears.

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stringed instrument

A musical instrument that produces sounds when its strings are plucked or bowed.

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vibrate

To quickly move back and forth repeatedly.

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volume

The loudness of a sound.

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wavelength

The distance between two peaks of a sound wave.

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woodwind instrument

A musical instrument made of wood, plastic or metal that produces a range of sounds when a player blows into or across a mouthpiece and covers and uncovers holes in its pipe.

Scientific terms glossary

compare

To look at two or more things closely and see what is the same or different.

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conclusion

The outcome of an investigation or an explanation of what has been found out using data collected.



control

A part of a comparative investigation. It is an element that remains unchanged and is compared against the results to see the effect of a variable.

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data

Collected information or facts, including numbers, words measurements or observations.

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diagram

A drawing with labels that show the parts of something.

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equipment

An object or objects that are needed for a particular purpose, such as beakers and cylinders.

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fair test

A test or investigation in which only one variable is changed.

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investigation

An activity that involves investigating a subject or problem carefully to learn facts or answer a question. An investigation includes a planning, doing, recording and reviewing stage.

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measurement

The exact amount of something, such as the length, height, mass or volume in standard units.

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method

A set of instructions or steps to follow in a specific order to complete a particular task.

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observe

To watch or look at something carefully.

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prediction

A statement made by a person where they say what they think will happen in the future, using their knowledge or experiences.



record

To write data, such as numbers, words, measurements or observations in different ways, such as lists, tables, charts or labelled diagrams.

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research

To study a subject to discover new facts or information.

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results

The data collected from an investigation or test.

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variable

A factor, such as an object or condition that changes during an investigation.

