

# Seeing Sounds

## Procedure

- 1. Collaborate** Work with a partner. Turn an empty coffee can upside down. Have your partner tap the bottom of the can with the spoon. On the lines below, record what happens. **Safety:** Wear goggles.

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- 2. Observe** Place a few grains of sand on the bottom of the can. As your partner taps the can with the spoon, use a hand lens to observe the grains of sand. Record your observations on the lines below.

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- 3. Record Data** Hold a metal washer by the edge. Use the spoon to tap the washer. Record your observations on the lines below.

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- 4. Observe** Now tie one end of a string to the washer. Have your partner hold the other end of the string so that the washer hangs. Tap the washer with the spoon. Record your observations on the lines below.

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## Conclusion

Write the answers to the questions below.

1. **Observe** What happened to the sand grains in step 2?  
What do you think caused this?

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2. **Compare** How did the noise the washer made differ in steps 3 and 4?

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3. **Hypothesize** What might explain the difference in the sounds?

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## Investigate More!

**Research** Use the Internet or library to find information about musical instruments made from common objects, unusual materials, or junk. Describe how musicians use the objects to make music.

