

Sounds can also be loud or quiet.

We call this the **volume** or loudness of the sound.

Loudness is the amount of energy in the sound. The energy creates different sized vibrations. If you hit a drum hard, you give it lots of energy and the vibrations will be bigger than if it was hit gently. Bigger vibrations cause louder sounds.

Loudness is measured in **decibels** (dB).



Key Vocabulary

noise – a sound – usually unwanted or unpleasant

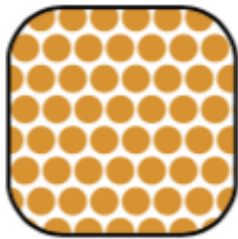
pinnae – the outside flaps of the ear which help 'catch' the vibrations

pitch – how high or low a sound is

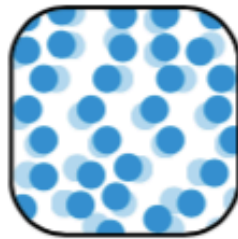
sound – vibrations that travel through the air and other mediums and can be heard

vibration – very quick movements

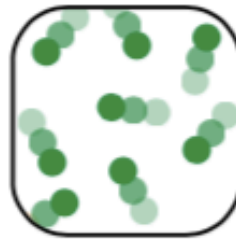
volume – how loud or quiet a sound is



Solid



Liquid



Gas

The vibrations caused by the sound can travel through the air (gas) but can also travel through liquids and solids.

The Ear

