

#### Why it's important:

•Human communication relies on cords vibrating in throats to send waves through gas, liquids, and solids that end up as electrical impulses in listeners' brains.



#### **State Standards Addressed**

Waves Waves have characteristic properties that do not depend on the type of wave. As a basis for understanding this concept:

- Students know waves carry energy from one place to another.
- Students know how to identify transverse and longitudinal waves in mechanical media, such as springs and ropes, and on the earth (seismic waves).
- Students know how to solve problems involving wavelength, frequency, and wave speed.
- Students know sound is a longitudinal wave whose speed depends on the properties of the medium in which it propagates.
- Students know radio waves, light, and X-rays are different wavelength bands in the spectrum of electromagnetic waves whose speed in a vacuum is approximately 3×10<sup>8</sup> m/s (186,000 miles/second).
- Students know how to identify the characteristic properties of waves: interference (beats), diffraction, refraction, Doppler effect, and polarization.

#### **Chapter 26: Sound**

#### I. The Origin of Sound (26.1)

- **A.** All sound is produced by **vibrations** in an object
  - 1. Vibrating strings, reed, vocal chords



2. In each case, original vibration stimulates the vibration of something larger or more massive
a. E.g. Sounding board of a stringed instrument, air column within reed or wind instrument, air in the throat and mouth of singer
b. Then vibrating material sends disturbance through a surrounding medium (usually the air)





#### 3. Under ordinary conditions, **frequency** of <u>vibrating</u> <u>source</u> equals the frequency of sound waves produced.



#### B. Frequency of sound wave called pitch



 Young person hears pitches from 20 to 20,000 hertz.
 As we get older bearing

2. As we get <u>older</u> hearing range **shrinks** 

**Human** Hearing Range

20Hz to 20kHz

#### 3. Sound waves below 20 hertz called infrasonic



This frequency range is utilized by seismographs for monitoring earthquakes

# 4. Sound waves above 20,000 hertz called **ultrasonic**

#### 5. Cannot hear ultrasonic or infrasonic sound waves



II. Sound in Air (26.2)

- A. Vibration creates **pulse** in air
  - 1. travels out in all directions
  - 2. **Energy** moves like **compression** wave in spring



- 3. Pulse of compressed air is called a **compression**.
- 4. Areas of lower-pressure air in between compressions called **rarefaction** (rarefied regions)



B. For all waves, it is <u>not</u> the **medium** that travels, but a **pulse** that travels.



III. Media that Transmit Sound (26.3)

- A. Most sounds you hear are transmitted through **air.**
- B. **Solids** and **liquids** are generally <u>good</u> <u>conductors</u> of sound.

1. In general sound transmitted <u>faster</u> in **liquids** than **gasses.** 

2. Faster still in solids.



- C. Sound cannot travel in a vacuum
  - 1. Transmission of sound requires a medium
  - 2. There may be a vibration, but without medium, no sound



# IV. Speed of Sound (26.4) A. Speed of sound in dry air at 0°C is about 330 m/s (or about 1200 kilometers per hour)



- 1. Water vapor in air increases speed slightly
- 2. **Increased temperature** <u>increases speed</u> (For each degree increase in air temperature, the speed increases by 0.60 m/s)
- 3. Speed at room temperature of about 20°C is 340 m/s

Medium	Velocity of sound at 0⊡C (m/s)
Air	331
Oxygen	460
Alcohol	1213
Water	1435
Copper	3560
Iron	5130

Temperature DC	Velocity of sound (m/s)
0	331
20	344
100	386
500	553
1000	700



## B. Speed of sound in a material depends on its elasticity not its density

1. **Elasticity** is ability of material to change shape in response to an applied force, and then <u>resume</u> its initial shape. Once distortion is removed (steel is elastic, putty is inelastic)





# 2. Sound travels 15 times faster in steel than air,4 times faster in water.



- V. Loudness (26.5)
  - A. Intensity of a sound waves is proportional to square of amplitude of a sound wave

#### 1. An objective measurement

2. Use oscilloscope to measure



- B. Loudness is a physiological sensation sensed in the brain
  - 1. Is a **subjective** measurement, but <u>related</u> to **sound intensity**
  - Loudness varies as the <u>logarithm of intensity</u> (powers of ten)



#### C. Intensity measured in decibels (dB)

- 1. **0 dB** threshold of hearing for normal ear
- 2. Increase of 10 dB is increase by factor of **ten** (20 dB is 100 times more intense than 0 dB)



- VI. Forced Vibration (26.6)
  - A. Forced vibration- like the soundboard on a guitar. Is forced to vibrate by vibrations of strings
  - B. Increases the loudness. Important for all stringed musical instruments





#### VII. Natural Frequency (26.7)

A. Every object composed of an elastic material will vibrate at its own special set of frequencies when disturbed, which together form its special sound. Natural frequency-unique to each object



B. **natural frequency** is one at which **minimum energy** is required to produce forced vibrations and frequency that requires the least energy to continue vibration



#### VIII. Resonance (26.8)

- A. **resonance** increase in amplitude when frequency of forced vibration matches the objects natural frequency.
  - 1. resonance means to "resound" of "sound again"
  - 2. requires force to pull it back to starting position and enough energy to keep it vibrating



A vibrating metal rod forces the air column inside into vibrations at the same frequency - resonance occurs.

#### B. Resonance <u>not</u> restricted to wave motion

- 1. Occurs whenever successive impulses are applied to vibrating object in rhythm with its natural frequency
- 2. Example- Tacoma Narrows Bridge collapse











IX. Interference (26.9)

### A. Sound waves (like any waves) can be made to interfere

#### 1. Crest overlaps crest of another wave (**constructive interference**) = **increase** in amplitude



 Crests overlaps troughs of another wave (destructive interference) = decrease in amplitude



- B. Interference affects loudness
  - 1. Waves arrive in phase then waves add
  - 2. Waves arrive out of phase then destructive



X. Beats (26.10)

A. Interesting case of interference

1. Occurs when tones of slightly different frequency are sounded together.



2. Fluctuation of loudness of combined sounds is heard (sound is loud, then faint, then loud, then faint, and so on)

3. Called beats

#### B. Beats can occur in any kind of waves

- 1. Used to tune musical instruments
- 2. When frequencies the <u>same</u> the beats **disappear**





#### **Detection of Pressure Waves**

#### The human ear

Sensitive to both **frequency**, **amplitude**, and different **qualities** of sound (*dissonance* and *consonance*)



*dissonance*- an unpleasant set of pitches

*consonance*- pleasant combination of pitches Human ear collects **pressure waves** and converts them to **electrical impulses** 

Sound waves enter ear and cause vibrations of the *tympanic membrane* 

Tiny bones transfer vibrations to fluid in cochlea.

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**Tiny hairs** in **cochlea** pick up certain frequencies out of the *fluid vibration* 

Hairs stimulate *nerve cells*, sending impulse to brain - producing sensation of sound

