

TAPS Scotland Focused assessment of scientific skills



Topic:	Primary 1	Activity title:
Sound	Age 4-5	Scooping sounds

Scientific skills focus

Plan & design: Explores & observes through play. Makes simple predictions of what might happen.



Curriculum link

Through play, I have explored a variety of ways of making sounds. SCN 0-11a

Assessment focus

- Can children explore how to make different sounds with the materials?
- Can children make predictions about the kind of sound which will be made?

Activity

Provide different sized containers e.g. tin cans, cardboard tubes with one end sealed, plastic containers with lids, plastic hollow Easter eggs, material scraps, balloons and elastic bands. Provide a wide variety of contents e.g. beads, buttons, dried beans, paper clips, cotton wool balls, etc., plus spoons/scoops for measuring/stirring.

Invite the children to explore the materials and 'scoop a sound' to create different instruments. Discuss their observations and predictions e.g. what sounds do you think this will make? What if you stir the can with a wooden/metal spoon? Listen to the sound. Can you describe it? Stretch a balloon over the top or place material over the top and secure it. Shake the can / container. Is it louder or guieter? What else could we try? Capture their observations and predictions on post its.

Adapting the activity

Support: Explore the materials one at a time with the child and discuss the sound made. Use vocabulary quiet / loud to describe the sounds made. Provide flash cards of vocabulary with pictures beside the words.

Extension: Make a variety of instruments and order them from guietest to loudest.

Other ideas: Elastic band guitar. Consider muffling the sound made.

Questions to support discussion

- What do you think these will sound like?
- How would you describe that sound?
- Does this one make a different sound?
- How could you make it louder/quieter?
- What sound will it make if you shake it? Roll it? Tap it with a wooden spoon?
- What will happen if you use more or less dried beans?

Benchmark indicators

Working towards: Explores the materials and makes different sounds but does not communicate their observations or predictions.

Achieved: Explores the materials and observes the different sounds carefully. Predicts, then investigates, ways to make sounds louder and quieter.

Possible ways to go further: Children may begin to describe patterns, test their predictions in a systematic way, raise further questions to investigate, request additional materials.



P2 Pupil box 2 - focus on science. See TAPS pyramid for more examples.