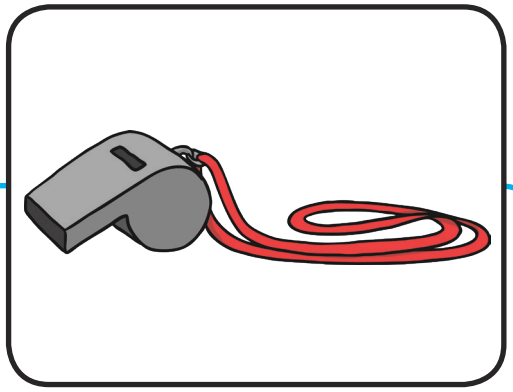
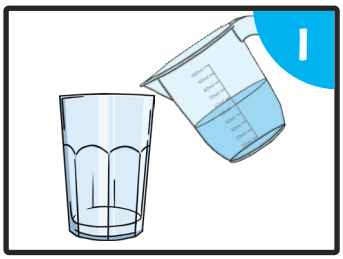
Water Whistle

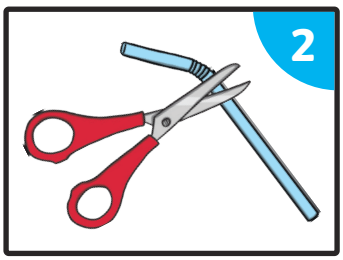


You will need:

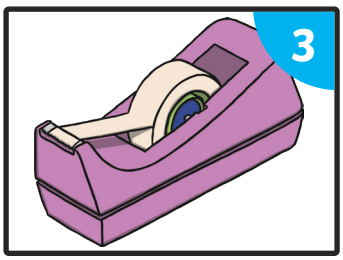
- straw
- scissors
- glass
- water
- sticky tape (optional)



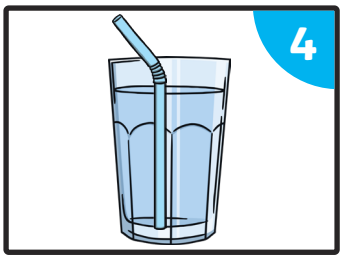
1. Fill the glass with water till it is almost full.



2. Measure 1/3 of the way down the straw and make a cut almost all the way through the straw. You should leave a small piece of the straw uncut - this will keep the two straw pieces joined together.



3. Carefully, bend the straw at the cut, turning it into an 'L' shape. If you like, you can add some sticky tape around it to hold it in place but do not cover the holes.



4. Put the longer part of the straw into the glass of water.

5. Keep the straw in an upside down 'L' shape. Put your lips around the shorter end of the straw and blow lightly without stopping. Pinching the top of the long end of the straw can help you get a better sound.

Water Whistle

Try:

- different amounts of water in your glass;
- different sized straws;
- different liquids in the glass;
- raising or lowering the straw in the water.

What's Happening:

All sound is made by vibration. The vibrations travel through the air, reach your ears and then your brain reads them as sounds. When you blow the air across the top of the longer piece of the straw, you are making the air inside it vibrate. The more air that is inside your straw, the lower the pitch of the whistle. Less air and more water will create a higher pitch.