

Water Xylophone Experiment

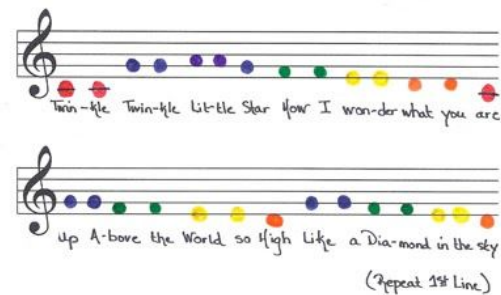
With an adult's permission and/or help, line up 6 glasses and pour half a cup of water in the first glass and increase the amount of water by half a cup for every glass. You can add a few drops of food coloring if you would like. The food coloring will not change the pitch or sound of the water.

Use a pen, pencil, chopstick, or something else you find to gently tap the glasses as you listen to the musical notes made. Experiment with the notes. Can you make your own song? Can you play a song you know? What happens if you tap it at a different part of the glass? Does it make a difference? What would happen if you used plastic instead of glass? What other items could you use to tap the glass? Would the material make a difference to the sound? List your discoveries on the back of this page.

Extend the Activity

To show that sound is made by a vibration (in this case, a vibration of the water), try this additional sound vibration activity. Tie a piece of string to a metal spoon. Wrap the string around your finger and place your finger in your ear. Tap the spoon with another spoon as it is hanging (not touching anything else). You may have to tilt your head a bit, so the string and spoon are not touching your body. Notice how the vibration from the spoon tap traveled up the string to your ear.

To play Twinkle Twinkle Little Star: Use the music below and your ear to see if you can play the song. Have fun!



Visit the Coffin school website to find Mrs. Murphy's website under Faculty and Staff or go to www.brunswick.k12.me.us/dmurphy .

There you will find songs, videos, online resources, and information. Email me with any questions and/or picture or videos. I have been enjoying hearing from you. Miss you!