

Science and Technology K–6 sample assessment for learning activity

Stage 1

(linked to *What's that sound?* sample unit)

Activity name: Sound files

Context

Students in collaborative groups have been investigating the effectiveness of a range of materials in reducing the loudness of a sound, with the intent of identifying appropriate materials that could be used to design and create a quiet space in the school.

Description of activity

As an introduction and early investigation of sound and the properties of materials, students record the sound of an alarm clock covered with different materials. They use the data in the sound file to compare the loudness of the sounds recorded in different situations, and relate their findings to their predictions.

Outcomes

- ST1-4WS** investigates questions and predictions by collecting and recording data, sharing and reflecting on their experiences and comparing what they and others know
- ST1-13MW** relates the properties of common materials to their use for particular purposes

Criteria for assessing learning

Students will be assessed on their ability to:

- make predictions
- follow a series of steps to record and play back a sound file
- read the sound file, identifying the data being measured
- read the scale/numeric value to compare the loudness of the recorded sound
- record the correct value on a worksheet
- compare the value with their prediction.

Feedback

Students will undertake self-assessment of their learning in relation to the assessment criteria for this activity. They receive peer and teacher feedback when reporting on their findings. During the teaching–learning experiences, students will receive oral peer and/or teacher feedback in relation to:

- operating the equipment used
- identifying the part of the sound file being measured
- reading the appropriate scale/numeric value.

Recording evidence of learning

Teachers may gather a variety of evidence of learning, informal and/or formal, during the assessment for learning activity. This may include:

- anecdotal records
- comments or notations
- conversations
- marks
- grades
- digital recordings and/or audio or visual representations.