Subject: Science  Grade: Kindergarten

Standard: #3 The Physical Setting

Key Concept: Things that make sound vibrate

Generalization: Different things make different sounds

Background:
This is an exploration to introduce a unit on sound. Materials needed for each group in Tier I are a tape of at least 10 different sounds, tape recorder, posterboard, and crayons or markers. Materials for Tape II include a variety of objects that produce sound, posterboard or three different colored mats.

This lesson is tiered in process according to learning style.

Tier I: Visual Learners/Auditory Learners
Students will listen to a variety of taped sounds. Students have picture cards of each sound used (fire truck for the sound of a siren; bell for a clanging bell sound, etc.) as well as a piece of posterboard with numbers according to the number of sounds used (e.g. 10 large squares numbered 1-10 for ten sounds). Students listen to the first taped sound and decide what it is. They then find the appropriate card and place it by the number 1 on the posterboard. Students share their findings with other groups doing the same investigation.

Tier II: Kinesthetic Learners
Students are given a variety of objects to use in this activity. Include objects that vibrate by plucking, by hitting or striking, and by pulling. Students investigate ways to make each object produce a sound. Students may classify the items on a pre-made grid or on three different colored mats — one for plucking, one for hitting/striking, one for pulling. Students share their findings with the other groups doing the same investigation.
Assessment:

The teacher may assess by observation while groups are working on their investigations. A completed grid or poster may be assessed for accuracy. After all groups are finished, the two tiers should share what they learned with each other through a whole group discussion. The teacher should check for errors and misconceptions.