

# Kia Oho Ake

QUICK PRINT

## What makes the noise?



15 MINUTES



PAIRS



SCISSORS



DEVICE

### Learning objectives

- To identify safe levels of noise at work for all
- To describe common sound controls in our day-to-day lives

### Equipment

- What makes the noise cards (1 per pair)
- What makes the noise chart (1 per pair)
- Phone with sound meter app. For example: [Apple Store](#) or [Google Play](#) (1 per pair)

### Providing the learning experiences

#### PART 1

1. As a class, discuss what decibels measure and examples of sounds that could damage hearing.
  - Decibels (dB) measure the relative loudness of sounds. Sounds that are 85dB and over can be harmful to hearing.
2. In pairs, using the *What Makes the Noise cards* and *chart*, ākonga decide what decibel level they think each noise on the card is.
3. After that, share answers (on the next page) as a class and kōrero about:
  - What sounds are louder than traffic?
  - How would it feel to listen to each sound all day?
  - What do we do to control risks caused by dangerous sound levels?

#### PART 2

4. In pairs ākonga use a sound meter (app or website) to test how loud different sounds are. For example, try testing power tools, voices, or anything around the room.
5. To finish, as a class kōrero about:
  - How does the loudness compare to objects on the chart?
  - Which sounds surprised each student? Discuss which sounds surprised you.
  - Describe the ways you might control the risk of noise on the worksite?

Supporting resources: For students to do on devices

**WORKSAFE**  
Mahi Haumaru Aotearoa



**PICKLED!**

 **YouTube**



**Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa**  
New Zealand Government

## Possible solutions

This activity is designed to generate kōrero, the exact level of noise each item makes is not critical. Ideally, ākonga can relate other sounds at work to the examples here and discuss what is too loud on site.

### What makes that noise?

dB		
	150	0 seconds
Firecracker	140	0 seconds
Ambulance siren Live rock band	130	0 seconds
Jack hammer	120	15 seconds
Chainsaw	110	15 seconds
Handheld drill	100	15 minutes
Sander Lawnmower	90	2 hours
Car traffic	80	8 hours
Vacuum cleaner	70	Forever
Dishwasher Normal conversation	60	Forever
Rain	50	Forever
Bird song	40	Forever
Whisper	30	Forever
How loud?		

### How long is it safe?

Eardrum rupture

Human pain threshold

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## What makes the noise cards

<b>Whisper</b>	<b>Rain</b>	<b>Dishwasher</b>	<b>Live rock band</b>
<b>Car traffic</b>	<b>Lawnmower</b>	<b>Vacuum cleaner</b>	<b>Rocket launch</b>
<b>Jack hammer</b>	<b>Ambulance siren</b>	<b>Handheld drill</b>	<b>Sander</b>
<b>Chainsaw</b>	<b>Firecracker</b>	<b>Bird song</b>	<b>Normal conversation</b>

# What makes the noise (chart)

