



Smithsonian

**SCIENCE**  
*for the classroom*

# HOW CAN WE SEND A MESSAGE USING SOUND?

Overview and Lesson Sampler, Grade 1



**ENGINEERING**

COMING SOON



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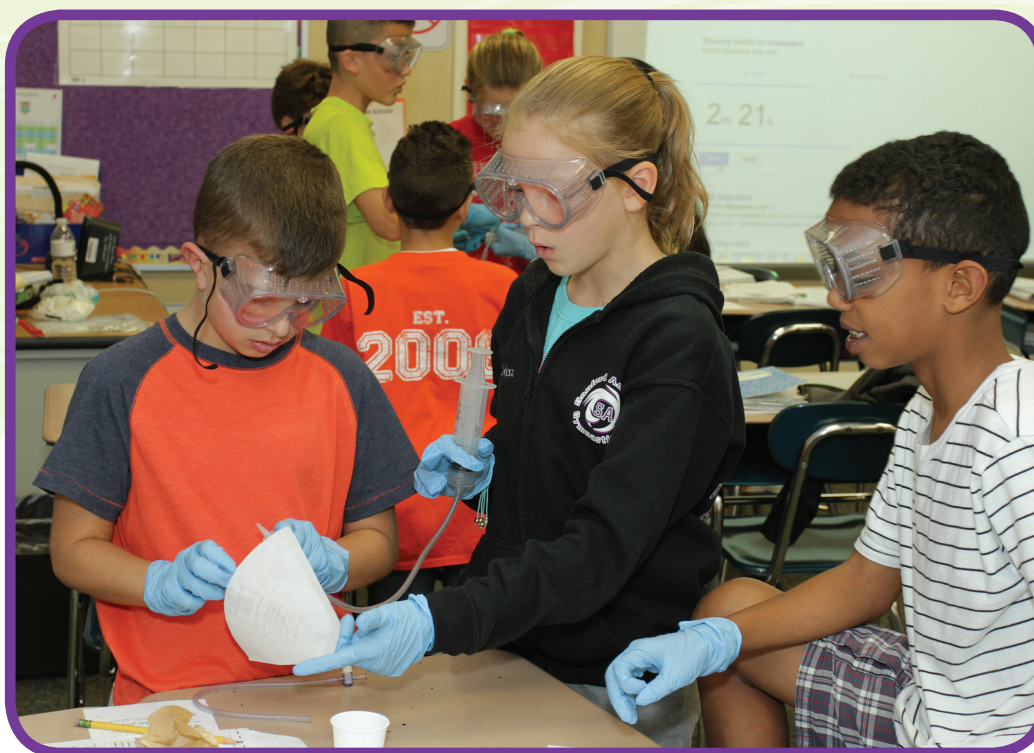
## All New for NGSS—*Smithsonian Science for the Classroom*™ for Grades 1–5

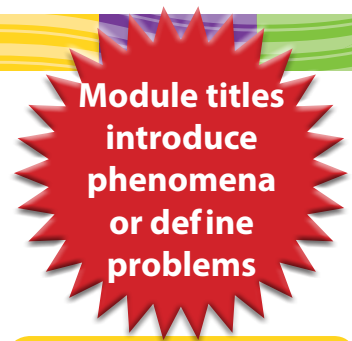
For decades, the Smithsonian Science Education Center has been a leader in providing curriculum, professional development, and leadership development in support of inquiry-based science education. The release of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) triggered key shifts in curriculum, instruction, and assessment.

The vision laid out by the NGSS explicitly requires performances that blend content, practices, and crosscutting concepts. The Smithsonian Science Education Center responded with a new generation of high-quality curriculum materials for Grades 1–5—*Smithsonian Science for the Classroom*.

### ***Smithsonian Science for the Classroom* was developed to:**

- Meet the Next Generation Science Standards through intentional curriculum design
- Support for teachers as they learn to implement new standards
- Incorporate findings from education research on how students learn
- Center on coherent storylines that flow logically from lesson to lesson as students work toward explaining phenomena or designing solutions to problems
- Broaden access to world-class Smithsonian collections, experts, and resources
- Include instructional supports to ensure all students can meet the standards
- Seamlessly incorporate a comprehensive assessment system to monitor student progress





# Smithsonian Science for the Classroom Curriculum Framework—Designed for the Next Generation Science Standards

Life Science	Earth and Space Systems Science	Physical Science	Engineering Design
<b>Grade 1</b>			
<b>How Do Animal Parents Keep Their Babies Safe?</b> 1-LS1-1 • 1-LS1-2 • 1-LS3-1 • K-2-ETS1-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Engineering Design	<b>Is a Day Always the Same Length?</b> 1-ESS1-1 • 1-ESS1-2 • 1-PS4-2 <b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science	<b>How Can We See Things in the Dark?</b> 1-PS4-2 • 1-PS4-3 • 1-LS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Life Science and Engineering Design	<b>How Can We Send a Message Using Sound?</b> K-2-ETS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-2 • K-2-ETS1-3 • 1-PS4-1 • 1-PS4-4 <b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science
<b>Grade 2</b>			
<b>How Do Plants and Animals Need Each Other?</b> 2-LS2-1 • 2-LS4-1 • 2-LS2-2 • K-2-ETS1-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Engineering Design	<b>What Can Maps Tell Us About Water on Earth?</b> 2-ESS2-2 • 2-ESS2-3 • 2-PS1-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science	<b>How Do Heating and Cooling Change Things?</b> 2-PS1-1 • 2-PS1-2 • 2-PS1-3 • 2-PS1-4 • K-2-ETS1-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Engineering Design	<b>How Can We Stop Soil From Washing Away?</b> K-2-ETS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-2 • K-2-ETS1-3 • 2-ESS2-1 • 2-ESS1-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Earth and Space Science
<b>Grade 3</b>			
<b>What Explains Similarities and Differences Between Organisms?</b> 3-LS1-1 • 3-LS3-1 • 3-LS3-2 • 3-LS4-2 • 3-ESS2-2 <b>Supporting:</b> Earth and Space Science	<b>How Do Weather and Climate Affect Our Lives?</b> 3-ESS2-1 • 3-ESS2-2 • 3-ESS3-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Engineering Design	<b>How Can We Predict Patterns of Motion?</b> 3-PS2-1 • 3-PS2-2 • 3-PS2-3 • 3-PS2-4 • 3-5-ETS1-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Engineering Design	<b>How Can We Protect Animals When Their Habitat Changes?</b> 3-5-ETS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-2 • ETS1-3 • 3-LS4-1 • 3-LS2-1 • 3-LS4-3 • 3-LS4-4 <b>Supporting:</b> Life Science
<b>Grade 4</b>			
<b>How Can Animals Communicate with Light and Sound?</b> 4-LS1-1 • 4-LS1-2 • 4-PS4-1 • 4-PS4-2 • 4-PS4-3 • 3-5-ETS1-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science and Engineering Design	<b>How Is the Ring of Fire Evidence of a Changing Earth?</b> 4-ESS1-1 • 4-ESS2-1 • 4-ESS2-2 • 4-ESS3-2 • 3-5-ETS1-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Engineering Design	<b>How Does Motion Energy Change in a Collision?</b> 4-PS3-1 • 4-PS3-3 • 4-LS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Life Science and Engineering Design	<b>How Can We Provide Energy to People's Homes?</b> 3-5-ETS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-2 • 3-5-ETS1-3 • 4-PS3-4 • 4-PS3-2 • 4-ESS3-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science and Earth and Space Science
<b>Grade 5</b>			
<b>How Can We Predict Change in Ecosystems?</b> 5-LS1-1 • 5-LS2-1 • 5-PS3-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science	<b>How Can the Sky Be Used to Navigate?</b> 5-ESS1-1 • 5-ESS1-2 • 5-PS2-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science and Engineering Design	<b>How Can We Identify Materials Based on Their Properties?</b> 5-PS1-1 • 5-PS1-2 • 5-PS1-3 • 5-PS1-4 • 5-LS2-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Life Science	<b>How Can We Provide Freshwater to Those in Need?</b> 3-5-ETS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-2 • 3-5-ETS1-3 • 5-ESS2-1 • 5-ESS2-2 • 5-ESS3-1 <b>Supporting:</b> Earth and Space Science

## **Smithsonian Science for the Classroom Curriculum Overview**

### **20 Hands-On Inquiry Modules that:**

#### **Bring Phenomena-Based and Problem-Based Learning to Your Classroom**

- Life, Earth, and Physical Science module titles present questions about natural phenomena—students construct explanations
- Engineering Design modules present problems—students design solutions

#### **Incorporate Three-Dimensional Learning into Every Investigation**

- Investigations blend Disciplinary Core Ideas with Science and Engineering Practice and Crosscutting Concepts
- Investigations invite students to construct scientific explanations or design solutions for real-life problems

#### **Provide Four Modules at Each Grade Level to Meet all NGSS Grade-Level Performance Expectations**

- One interdisciplinary module per grade level in Life, Earth, and Physical Science strands
- Engineering Design modules integrate engineering and science together, never treating engineering design in isolation from the scientific knowledge it is based on

#### **Provide Everything You Need to Meet the NGSS Standards**

- Teacher support, step-by-step investigations, guiding questions, literacy, assessment, and hands-on materials

**Bring the expertise of the Smithsonian's world-class collections, experts, and resources into your classroom.**





## Keep an Eye Out!

What to Look for in a *Smithsonian Science for the Classroom* Module:

### Coherent Learning Progression

- Concepts and Practices Storyline shows how concepts build from one lesson to the next within the module using the 5-E model



### NGSS Support at Point of Use

- Explanations at point of use explicitly define how students are engaging in the Science and Engineering Practices and Crosscutting Concepts



### Literacy and Math

- ELA and Mathematics connections to Science overlap with student engagement in the science and Engineering Practices
- *Smithsonian Science Stories* On-Grade and Below-Grade Literacy Series
- STEM Notebooks



### Misconception Identification

- Reveals common misconceptions students may have and offers ways to address them in the lessons



### Technology Integration

- A balance between hands-on investigation and technology
- Foundations for coding



Grade 1



Smithsonian

**SCIENCE**  
*for the classroom*

# HOW CAN WE SEND A MESSAGE USING SOUND?



**ENGINEERING**

TEACHER GUIDE



## Module Overview

Students explore different ways of sending a message and organize them by how the message is sent (light or sound) and by distance. They use a drum to send a simple message using a pattern of sounds. Students collect evidence through hands-on activities and text to build a claim that sound is caused by something vibrating. They build a model of a kazoo and use this to demonstrate that sound also causes vibrations. They use a model of an ear drum to collect more evidence that sound causes vibrations. They use a text to construct an explanation for how we hear. In the end-of-module design challenge, they use their understanding of sound to make a simple musical instrument that can send a message a short distance.



## Concepts and Practices Storyline



### Lesson 1: Pass It On

Objects have been invented that help to solve the problem of how to send a message a long distance.

Students **define the problem** of sending a message quickly and reliably. They organize objects that send messages into objects that can send a message **a short distance** and objects that can send a message **a long distance**.



### Lesson 2: Zoo Game

A pattern of sounds can be used to send a message without speaking.

Students **design a solution** to the problem of sending a message a short distance without speaking. They use a **pattern** of drum beats to help a zookeeper feed the animals in a simple board game.



Featured  
sample  
lesson





**Lesson 3: Science of Sound**  
Sound is caused by vibrations.  
Students share ideas on what causes sound. They start a series of experiments to **investigate** what **causes** sound.



**Lesson 7: Make It Jump**  
Sound causes vibrations.  
Students use their kazoo to observe that sound causes vibrations. They **plan and carry out an investigation** to **cause** salt on top of a stretched rubber square to jump.



**Lesson 4: Good Vibrations**  
Sound is caused by vibrations.  
Students complete their investigation into what causes sound. As a group, they use their evidence to **build a claim** that sound is **caused by** vibrations.



**Lesson 8: Hear, Hear**  
We hear by sound causing our eardrum to vibrate.  
Students use evidence from a text to **construct an explanation** for what **causes** us to hear sounds.



**Lesson 5: Sound of Music**  
Music is caused by vibrations.  
Students read texts about drums and stringed instruments. They **collect evidence from the text** to build a claim that music is caused by **part of an instrument** vibrating.



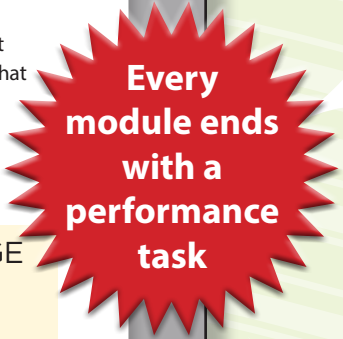
**DESIGN CHALLENGE**  
**Lesson 9: Help Hopper Cross the River Part 1**  
Students **develop a model** of a banjo by identifying **the parts that are important** for it to vibrate and thereby make sound.



**Lesson 6: Kazoo Kraziness**  
Different solutions need to be tested to see which one solves the problem.  
Students carry out research into parts of a kazoo. They test different materials that could be used as **parts of a kazoo** and **argue from evidence** which materials make the best sound.



**Lesson 10: Help Hopper Cross the River Part 2**  
Students **use patterns** in sounds from a banjo to **design a code** that **solves the problem** of getting someone safely across a river.





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# NOTES

DRAFT



**Define problems for engineering**

2

LESSON 2: **ZOO GAME**

**Focus Question:**  
How can I send a message using a drum?

**Objective**

Develop a code that can be used to send a message a short distance.

**E** Explore Explain

**Lesson Background Information**

In this lesson, students play a board game in pairs. In the game, one student plays the role of the zookeeper who needs to feed five animals (zebra, elephant, panda, wolf, and lion) that live off a path through the zoo (see Figure 2.1). This student has a single counter that he/she moves. The other student plays the role of the messenger who tells the zookeeper which animal to feed. This student has a drum, a stick, and a set of five animal cards. Students first need to agree on a code to use. There are a number of different ways students could come up with a code. Students could use a number of beats to represent the position of each animal on the path, e.g., one beat for zebra, two beats for elephant, etc. Students could use a number of beats to instruct the zookeeper to move forward, backward, and stop. Students could use combinations of loud and soft and long and short beats. Students could also use sounds that represent each animal, e.g., one loud, long beat for a lion's roar. There is no right answer! The important thing is that students learn that patterns of sounds can be used to send a message and evaluate how well their code worked.

**Vocabulary**  
inventor  
pattern  
code

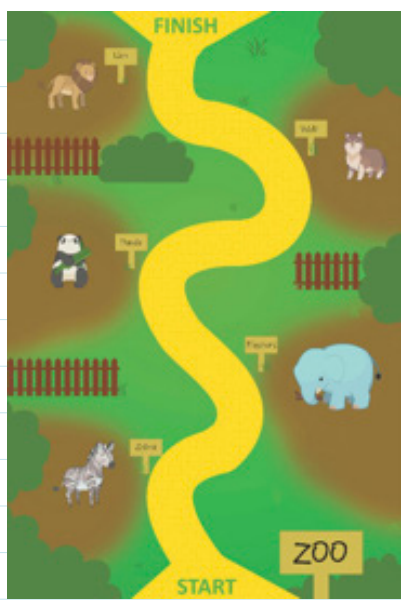


Figure 2.1 Game Board



## Materials

### For the teacher

- 1 Computer or tablet with Internet access\*

### For each student

- STEM notebook\*
- Lesson 2 Notebook Sheet

### For each group of two students

- 1 Game board
- 1 Game piece
- 1 Set of Zoo Animals cards
- 1 Drum
- 1 Dowel to use as a stick (optional)

### For the class

- Glue or tape\*

\*needed but not supplied

**Teacher TIP:**  
If you prefer, you can have students use their hands instead of a stick.



Figure 2.2 From left to right: Drum, stick, game piece

## Preparation

1. Write the lesson question and lesson title on the board.
2. Put a stick and a set of Zoo Animal cards in each drum as shown in **Figure 2.3**. These are the materials for the messenger.
3. Make a copy of Lesson 2 Notebook Sheet for each student.



Figure 2.3 Materials for Messenger

## Procedure

### Getting Started

- @** 1. Navigate to [www.ssec.si.edu/sound](http://www.ssec.si.edu/sound). Play the Ada Asks Introduction animation. Below is a transcript of what Ada says in the animation:
- "Hi, I'm Ada! Welcome to my treehouse! I've heard that you have been discussing the problem of how to send a message. You did a great job sorting objects that can send a message. Wow, what a lot of objects use sound to send a message! The people who invented these really made our lives easier. You may not know this, but I'm an inventor too. I changed my phone so it makes one sound when my dad calls and another when my grandmother calls. Neat, hey! In fact, that gives me an idea for a game to play. I'm going to pretend I'm a zookeeper and I need to feed all the animals. The problem is the animals are all fed at different times. To help me, you have to tell me which animal to feed first. To make it tricky though, you can't speak to me. You can only use a drum to tell me where to go. This means you have to come up with a code! Perhaps you can use the drum to make a pattern of sounds that tells me what to do. Let's see how good you are at this game!"

2. Ask students for suggestions for new words to add to the word wall.

### Teacher TIP:

If you do not have access to a computer for this lesson, go straight to the Activity.

**Technology  
Integration**



## Literacy integration



**Tech tip:**  
Project the game board on a smartboard.

RF.1.4



SL.1.2



SL.1.1



### Point-of-use teacher support



Science and Engineering Practices

#### Defining problems:

Students define the problem of animals needing to be fed in a particular order. They ask questions in order to clearly understand the problem.

### Activity

1. Show students the game board. Tell students that they will play this game in pairs. Explain that one student will be the zookeeper and one student will be the messenger. The goal is for the zookeeper to get to the Finish and to feed all the animals along the way.
2. Navigate to [www.ssec.si.edu/sound](http://www.ssec.si.edu/sound). Open the Game Rules file. Read the game rules or have students read them out aloud.
3. Ask students if they have any questions about the rules.
4. Use the following guiding questions to facilitate a discussion on what code students could use:

**Teacher TIP:**  
If you do not have access to a computer for this lesson, print out the game rules or write them on chart paper or the board.

- **What problem are we trying to solve?**  
(The zookeeper needs to feed all the animals in a certain order)
- **What messages does the messenger need to send to the zookeeper?**  
(The messenger needs to tell the zookeeper to go forward, go backward, and stop; The messenger needs to tell the zookeeper to go to stop 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.)
- **What pattern of beats could you use for each message?**  
(I could use a number of beats; I could use a mixture of short and long beats; I could use a mixture of loud and soft beats.)
- **How are you going to make sure the messenger and zookeeper both understand the code?**  
(Write it down in our STEM notebooks; use a dot for a single, short beat; use a dash for a single, long beat.)

5. Organize students into pairs.

**ELL strategy:**

Pair bilingual students with students with very limited English if possible.

6. Hand out a game board to each pair of students.

7. Hand out a copy of the Lesson 2 Notebook Sheet to each student. Model for students how they should record their code on the notebook sheet. Students should write their message in the left-hand column and the pattern of beats in the right-hand column. Let students know that they don't need to use all the lines.

8. Give students 5 minutes to discuss the code with their partner and to answer question 1 on their notebook sheet. (Students write their code.) An example of a completed notebook sheet is shown in Figure 2.4.

Message	Pattern
Forward	.
Back	..
Stop	-

Figure 2.4: Example Of A Student Code

**ELL strategy:**

Suggest that ELL students discuss the goal of the activity briefly with their partner and repeat it in their own words.



Science and Engineering Practices

**Designing solutions:**

Students design a code that will help them play a game without speaking.



Crosscutting Concepts

**Patterns:**

Students develop a code using patterns of drum beats and think of a way to represent their patterns.



**Math  
integration**

1.NBT.A.1



9. Once all students have written the code, ask students to decide who will be the zookeeper and who will be the messenger. Tell students that they will get a chance to play both roles.
10. Hand out the drum containing the stick (if using) and the Zoo Animal card set to each messenger.
11. Hand out a single game piece to each zookeeper.
12. Give students 10 minutes to play the game (see Figure 2.5).



Figure 2.5 Students playing the game



**Science and  
Engineering Practices**

**Carrying out  
investigations:**

Students carry out an investigation that tests how well their code works in solving the problem of feeding the animals in the correct order.

**Using mathematics  
and computational  
thinking:**

Students use counting and numbers to develop and use a simple pattern of long and short sounds to send a message.

13. Halfway through this time, ask students to switch roles. Use the following guiding questions to check that students are thinking about what they are doing:
  - **What problems are you having playing the game?**  
(One person keeps forgetting the code or doesn't understand it.)
  - **What could you do differently?**  
(We could go over the code together to make sure we both understand it.)



14. When both students have played the role of zookeeper, ask students to complete question 2 on their notebook sheets. (Students reflect on how well their code worked.)

### Bringing It All Together

1. Bring the class back together again.
2. Use the following guiding questions to facilitate a discussion on how well the code worked:

- **How well did your code work in solving the problem?**  
(Answers will vary. The code sort of worked.)
- **Were there any problems sending a message this way?**  
(The messenger making a mistake; the zookeeper not understanding the message; the zookeeper not hearing the message; the zookeeper moving too fast.)
- **How easy did you find it to understand the way you drew the code on your notebook sheet?**  
(It was sometimes hard to go from the code to the drum.)
- **Can you think of a different pattern that might work better for a code?**  
(Use a different type of sound for each message (e.g. long, short, soft, loud) rather than a different number of beats.)
- **How could you improve this way of sending a message?**  
(Playing more slowly; using a different code; using a louder drum; going somewhere quieter.)



SL.1.1



#### Crosscutting Concepts

##### Patterns:

Students consider how the patterns they used in their code worked and didn't work and consider other possible patterns that could work.



#### Science and Engineering Practices

##### Designing solutions:

Students consider how well their code solved the problem, any drawbacks this solution had, and brainstorm ways to improve their solution.

### Misconception support



#### Misconception:

Many students tend to think that problems only have one (or one best) solution.‡ This discussion is intended to get students to start thinking about ways to improve an initial solution and to consider the possibility of changing it entirely.



**Assessment**

**Formative Assessment**

Use this table to provide timely, actionable feedback for individual students on their successes and areas for improvement, as well as to plan any necessary whole-class remediation. Revisit the Common Misconceptions table in the module overview to familiarize yourself with other possible difficulties.

**Assessment Task: Bringing It All Together—Answers to Guiding Questions**

Concepts and Practices	Indicators of Success	Indicators of Difficulty
Designs can be conveyed through sketches, drawings, or physical models. These representations are useful in communicating ideas for a problem's solutions to other people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students say that they used and understood the written representations (e.g., dot-dot-dash) to represent their code.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students say that they weren't sure what the symbols meant or why they would be helpful.</li> </ul>
Because there is always more than one possible solution to a problem, it is useful to compare and test designs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students can think of ways to improve their solution.</li> <li>• Students say they could change their code entirely to use a different pattern.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students can't think of any ways to improve their solution.</li> <li>• Students do not think it would be possible to use a different code or pattern.</li> </ul>
Designing solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students say that their code was at least somewhat helpful in solving the problem.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students do not think their code helped solve the problem.</li> </ul>
Patterns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students are able to suggest ideas for new patterns to be used as a code.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students do not seem to connect codes to patterns.</li> <li>• Students cannot think of ideas for new/different patterns that could be used as a code.</li> </ul>

## Differentiated learning

### Remediation

Ask students to play with just three animals. Ask students to think how many stops there are between the Start and each animal. Ask students to choose a number of beats to represent the number of stops. For example, wolf would be four beats.

### Enrichment

When students swap roles, ask them to come up with a new code. Ask them to compare codes and discuss which code worked best and why.

### Extensions

#### Literacy: Messages on a Wire

##### Materials

##### For each pair of students

- Science Stories Literacy Series: Beats and Banjos

##### Procedure

Read "Messages on a Wire," the story of Alexander Graham Bell, aloud to the class or have students read the story in pairs. Use the questions and suggestions below to guide the discussion.

- **What was Alexander Graham Bell's important invention?**  
(It was sending the sound of voices over a wire; it was the telephone.)
- **What is the difference between a telegraph message and telephone call?**  
(A telegraph message used signals (dots and dashes) over a wire that spelled out letters using Morse code. A telephone call sends voices over a wire.)

Have students practice using Morse code to write words to aid in their understanding of patterns.



RI.1.2, RI.1.3,  
RI.1.10



SL.1.2



#### STEM and Society

#### Influence of engineering, technology and science on society:

Students learn that life would be very different today without the development of the telephone.



1.OA.C.5, 1.OA.C.6

## Math: Animal Number Lines

### Materials

#### For each pair of students

- Game board
- Post-it notes

### Procedure

Have students write the numbers 1 to 5 or numbers of your choosing on separate Post-it notes. Have students place each Post-it just below each animal with the lowest number below the **zebra** and the highest number below the **lion**. Give students various number line addition and subtraction problems to solve. For example, have them move from the **elephant** to the lion and say what the number would be (4 if using numbers 1-5).

DRAFT

## ***Smithsonian Science for the Classroom* Creates Student Scientists and Engineers**

Anyone with a question can be a scientist! *Smithsonian Science for the Classroom* gets students thinking, acting, reflecting, and communicating like scientists and engineers.

Scientists and engineers explore and investigate, read to gather information, record their data, and reflect on their ideas. *Smithsonian Science for the Classrooms* provides students with:

- Hands-on investigations that integrate literacy through the *Smithsonian Science Stories* Literacy Series
- Literacy lessons dedicated to reading, writing, speaking, and listening to gather information to support claims
- STEM Notebooks built by students to keep records of their questions, predictions, claims linked to evidence, and conclusions. Lesson notebook sheets scaffold student thinking and provide opportunities for students to explain phenomena, communicate their design for solutions, and self-assess.





Lesson 1 Notebook Sheet A

# How Can We Send a Message Using Sound?

DRAFT

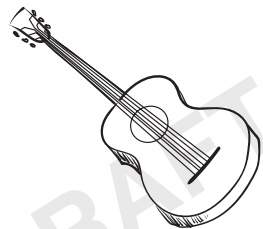
Lesson 1 Notebook Sheet B

## Table of Contents

Lesson Title	Page Number
Pass It On . . . . .	_____
Zoo Game . . . . .	_____
Science of Sound . . . . .	_____
Good Vibrations. . . . .	_____
Sound of Music . . . . .	_____
Kazoo Kraziness. . . . .	_____
Make It Jump . . . . .	_____
Hear, Hear . . . . .	_____
Help Hopper Cross the River Part 1. . . . .	_____
Help Hopper Cross the River Part 2. . . . .	_____

### Pass It On

Explain how this object makes a sound.



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

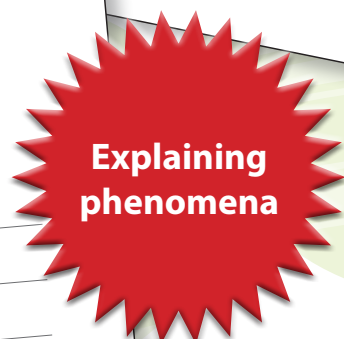
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**Explaining  
phenomena**

Lesson 2 Notebook Sheet

Designing  
solutions

## Zoo Game

1. What is your code? Write your code inside the drum.

Message	Pattern
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

2. How well did your code work? Circle a face.



Self-  
assessment



**Module-Specific, On-Grade and Below-Grade Nonfiction Literacy Supports  
Every Module of the *Smithsonian Science for the Classroom* Program.**

Smithsonian | SCIENCE STORIES

**CHANGING EARTH**

**Grade 2** *How Can We Stop Soil From Washing Away?*

Smithsonian | SCIENCE STORIES

**CHANGING HABITATS**

**Grade 3** *How Can We Protect Animals When Their Habitat Changes?*

Smithsonian | SCIENCE STORIES

**EVERYDAY ENERGY**

**Grade 4** *How Can We Provide Energy to People's Homes?*

Smithsonian | SCIENCE STORIES

**WATER MATTERS**

**Grade 5** *How Can We Provide Freshwater to Those in Need?*





Smithsonian

SCIENCE  
STORIES



Connecting  
student  
literacy to  
science in the  
real world



# BEATS AND BANJOS



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Bring the  
expertise of the  
Smithsonian  
into your  
classroom



READING

1

### THE INKA RUNNERS 1

How did the Inka rulers send and receive messages?



READING

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### MESSAGES ON A WIRE 7

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READING

# 2

# MESSAGES ON A WIRE



How did  
Alexander  
Graham Bell  
invent the  
telephone?



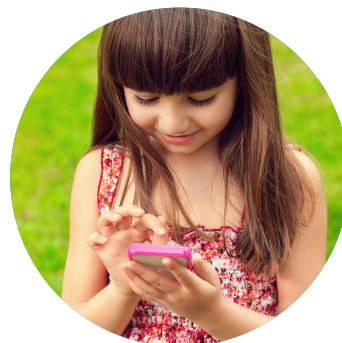
7

## MESSAGES ON A WIRE

There was a time when there were no TVs.

There were no computers.

There were no cell phones.



*How could people get the news?*

*How could people send a message?*

*How could you talk to a friend far away?*

These were problems to solve.



## MESSAGES ON A WIRE

### Using Patterns

*How could you send a message fast and a long way?*

People tried using electricity and wires.

They sent **signals** over the wires.

*But how could you read the signals?*

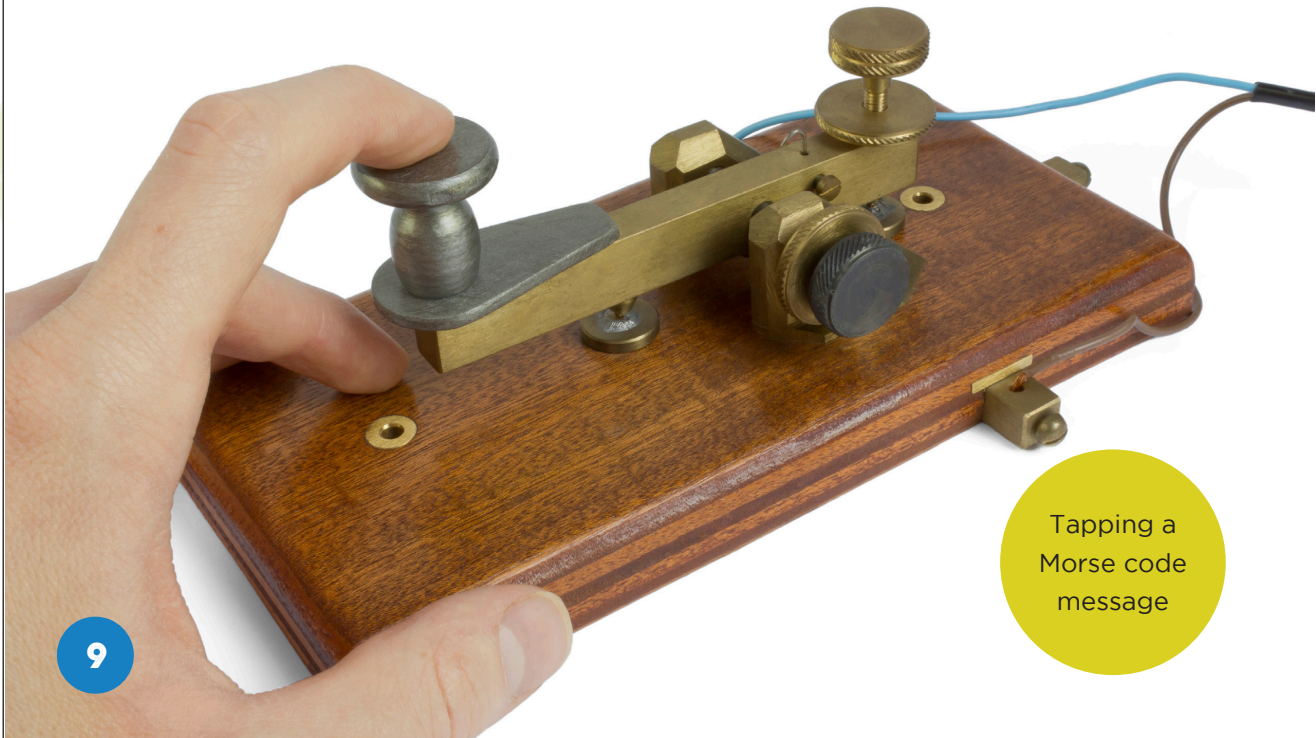
You could use Morse code.

Morse code is a **pattern** of signals.

Long and short signals stand for different letters.

Each letter is made of dots and dashes.

That is how a telegraph works.



Tapping a Morse code message

## MESSAGES ON A WIRE

**FUN  
FACT**

# MORSE CODE

**H**

is dot-dot-dot-dot

(\*\*\*\*)

**E**

is dot

(.)

**L**

is dot-dash-dot

(. - .)

**L**

is dot-dash-dot

(. - .)

**O**

is dash-dash-dash

(---)

Put it all together and

\* \* \* \* \*   \*   \*   \* \* \* \*   \*   \* \* \* \*   \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

means

HELLO



## ENGLISH GLOSSARY



### **ENGINEER**

someone who used science to solve a problem



### **INVENTOR**

someone who makes something for the first time



### **MESSAGE**

news that is sent from one place to another



### **MUSIC**

sounds that are pleasing to hear

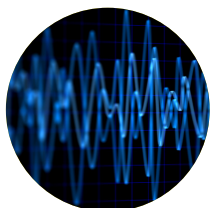


### **NOISE**

sounds that are loud and harsh







## **PATTERN**

shapes, sounds, or other things that repeat over and over



## **SCIENTIST**

someone who studies how the world works



## **SIGNAL**

a message that is carried by light or sound



## **SIREN**

something that makes a loud, warning sound



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# NOTES

DRAFT

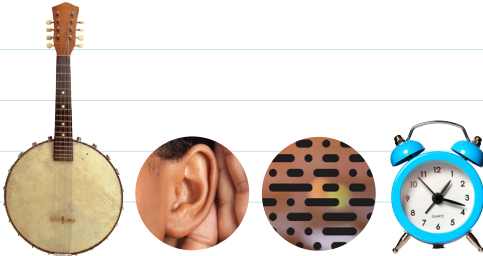




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# NOTES

DRAFT





Life Science	Earth and Space Systems Science	Physical Science	Engineering Design
<b>Grade 1</b>			
<p><b>How Do Animal Parents Keep Their Babies Safe?</b></p> <p>1-LS1-1 • 1-LS1-2 • 1-LS3-1 • K-2-ETS1-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Engineering Design</p>	<p><b>Is a Day Always the Same Length?</b></p> <p>1-ESS1-1 • 1-ESS1-2 • 1-PS4-2</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science</p>	<p><b>How Can We See Things in the Dark?</b></p> <p>1-PS4-2 • 1-PS4-3 • 1-LS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Life Science and Engineering Design</p>	<p><b>How Can We Send a Message Using Sound?</b></p> <p>K-2-ETS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-2 • K-2-ETS1-3 • 1-PS4-1 • 1-PS4-4</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science</p>
<b>Grade 2</b>			
<p><b>How Do Plants and Animals Need Each Other?</b></p> <p>2-LS2-1 • 2-LS4-1 • 2-LS2-2 • K-2-ETS1-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Engineering Design</p>	<p><b>What Can Maps Tell Us About Water on Earth?</b></p> <p>2-ESS2-2 • 2-ESS2-3 • 2-PS1-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science</p>	<p><b>How Do Heating and Cooling Change Things?</b></p> <p>2-PS1-1 • 2-PS1-2 • 2-PS1-3 • 2-PS1-4 • K-2-ETS1-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Engineering Design</p>	<p><b>How Can We Stop Soil From Washing Away?</b></p> <p>K-2-ETS1-1 • K-2-ETS1-2 • K-2-ETS1-3 • 2-ESS2-1 • 2-ESS1-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Earth and Space Science</p>
<b>Grade 3</b>			
<p><b>What Explains Similarities and Differences Between Organisms?</b></p> <p>3-LS1-1 • 3-LS3-1 • 3-LS3-2 • 3-LS4-2 • 3-ESS2-2</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Earth and Space Science</p>	<p><b>How Do Weather and Climate Affect Our Lives?</b></p> <p>3-ESS2-1 • 3-ESS2-2 • 3-ESS3-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Engineering Design</p>	<p><b>How Can We Predict Patterns of Motion?</b></p> <p>3-PS2-1 • 3-PS2-2 • 3-PS2-3 • 3-PS2-4 • 3-5-ETS1-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Engineering Design</p>	<p><b>How Can We Protect Animals When Their Habitat Changes?</b></p> <p>3-5-ETS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-2 • ETS1-3 • 3-LS4-1 • 3-LS2-1 • 3-LS4-3 • 3-LS4-4</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Life Science</p>
<b>Grade 4</b>			
<p><b>How Can Animals Communicate with Light and Sound?</b></p> <p>4-LS1-1 • 4-LS1-2 • 4-PS4-1 • 4-PS4-2 • 4-PS4-3 • 3-5-ETS1-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science and Engineering Design</p>	<p><b>How Is the Ring of Fire Evidence of a Changing Earth?</b></p> <p>4-ESS1-1 • 4-ESS2-1 • 4-ESS2-2 • 4-ESS3-2 • 3-5-ETS1-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Engineering Design</p>	<p><b>How Does Motion Energy Change in a Collision?</b></p> <p>4-PS3-1 • 4-PS3-3 • 4-LS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Life Science and Engineering Design</p>	<p><b>How Can We Provide Energy to People's Homes?</b></p> <p>3-5-ETS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-2 • 3-5-ETS1-3 • 4-PS3-4 • 4-PS3-2 • 4-ESS3-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science and Earth and Space Science</p>
<b>Grade 5</b>			
<p><b>How Can We Predict Change in Ecosystems?</b></p> <p>5-LS1-1 • 5-LS2-1 • 5-PS3-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science</p>	<p><b>How Can the Sky Be Used to Navigate?</b></p> <p>5-ESS1-1 • 5-ESS1-2 • 5-PS2-1 • 3-5-ETS1-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Physical Science and Engineering Design</p>	<p><b>How Can We Identify Materials Based on Their Properties?</b></p> <p>5-PS1-1 • 5-PS1-2 • 5-PS1-3 • 5-PS1-4 • 5-LS2-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Life Science</p>	<p><b>How Can We Provide Freshwater to Those in Need?</b></p> <p>3-5-ETS1-1 • 3-5-ETS1-2 • 3-5-ETS1-3 • 5-ESS2-1 • 5-ESS2-2 • 5-ESS3-1</p> <p><b>Supporting:</b> Earth and Space Science</p>

