Name: _____ Date: _____

Why a Bell Keeps Ringing After a Hit

Circle group

Tap a bell. It rings for a long time. Why does it not stop?

The bell gets hit. The metal starts to shake. The shaking is small and quick. Your eyes cannot see it. But it pushes the air. The air carries the push to your ears. You hear a ring.

A bell is hard metal. Hard metal keeps on shaking for a while. That is why the sound lasts.

Now touch the bell. The ringing stops. Your hand holds the metal still. The shaking stops. No shaking means no sound.

Questions

1. What happens to the metal when the bell is hit?

_____

_____

2. What carries the sound to your ears?

_____

_____

3. Why can your eyes not see the shaking?

_____

_____

4. What happens when you touch a ringing bell?

_____

_____

5. Why does the ringing stop when you hold the bell?

_____

_____

Words to know

shake: to move back and forth very fast
metal: a hard, shiny material like iron or copper
ring: the clear sound a bell makes
air: the invisible gas all around us

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Why a Bell Keeps Ringing After a Hit

Triangle group

Tap a bell, and it rings for a long time. Why does it not stop right away?

When something hits the bell, the metal begins to shake. The shaking is too small and quick for your eyes to see. But the shaking pushes the air around the bell. The air carries the push to your ears, and you hear a ring.

A bell is made of hard metal. Hard metal keeps shaking for a while after it is hit. That is why the sound lasts.

Now touch the bell with your hand. The ringing stops at once. Your hand holds the metal still, so the shaking stops. No shaking means no sound.

Questions

1. What happens to the metal when a bell is hit?

_____

_____

2. What carries the sound to your ears?

_____

_____

3. Why can you not see the shaking?

_____

_____

4. What happens when you touch a ringing bell?

_____

_____

5. Why does a bell stop ringing when you hold it?

_____

_____

Words to know

shake: to move back and forth very fast
metal: a hard, shiny material like iron or copper
ring: the clear sound a bell makes
air: the invisible gas all around us

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Why a Bell Keeps Ringing After a Hit

Square group

If you tap a bell, it keeps ringing for a surprisingly long time. Why does the sound not stop right away?

When something strikes the bell, the metal begins to vibrate. The vibration is far too small and quick for your eyes to notice. Nevertheless, it pushes against the air around the bell. The air carries each push all the way to your ears, and that is how you hear a ring.

A bell is made of hard metal, and hard metal continues to shake for quite a while after it has been struck. That is the reason the sound lasts so long.

Now touch the bell with your hand. The ringing stops at once, because your hand holds the metal still and the shaking comes to an end. When there is no shaking, there is no sound.

Questions

1. What happens to the metal when something strikes a bell?

_____

_____

2. What carries the sound all the way to your ears?

_____

_____

3. Why can your eyes not notice the shaking?

_____

_____

4. What happens when you touch a ringing bell with your hand?

_____

_____

5. Why does a bell stop ringing when you hold it?

_____

_____

Words to know

shake: to move back and forth very fast
metal: a hard, shiny material like iron or copper
ring: the clear sound a bell makes
air: the invisible gas all around us

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Why a Bell Keeps Ringing After a Hit

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Why a Bell Keeps Ringing After a Hit

Easier · 91 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.1

1. It starts to shake.
2. The air.
3. It is small and quick.
4. The ringing stops.
5. Your hand holds the metal still, and no shaking means no sound.

Triangle: Why a Bell Keeps Ringing After a Hit

This passage · 112 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.6

1. It begins to shake.
2. The air.
3. It is too small and quick for your eyes.
4. The ringing stops at once.
5. Your hand holds the metal still, and no shaking means no sound.

Square: Why a Bell Keeps Ringing After a Hit

Harder · 138 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.8

1. It begins to vibrate, or shake.
2. The air.
3. It is far too small and quick.
4. The ringing stops at once.
5. Your hand holds the metal still, and when there is no shaking there is no sound.