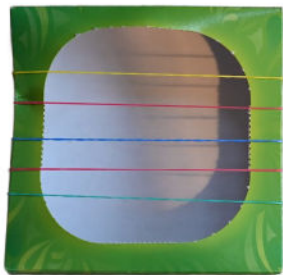


# MAKING MUSIC

## You'll need

Tissue or shoebox  
Elastic bands



## Instructions

Place 5 elastic bands over the shoebox.

Pluck each one and listen to the sound.

## What is happening?

When you pluck the elastic band it vibrates. This makes air molecules near the elastic band vibrate. When the air vibrations reach the ear, they shake tiny hairs connected to nerves. These nerves send a message to the brain, telling it that a noise has been heard.

The pitch (highness or lowness) of the sound a rubber band makes depends on the thickness of the elastic band and how tightly it is stretched. Thinner elastic bands make a higher pitched sound.

## Extension idea

Add elastic bands of different thicknesses to the box.

Pluck an elastic band and then touch it to stop the vibrations.