

Suitable for
6-7 years

- ✓ Solo
- ✓ Pairs
- ✓ Groups

Antonio's song

Listen To The Sound!

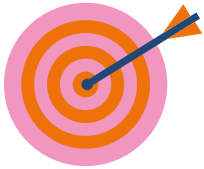
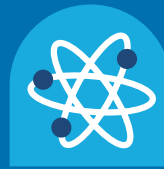
How to guide

Created and written by Frances Lynch
in collaboration with Acoustic Engineer,
Dr Antonio J Torija Martinez



Antonio's song

Listen To The sound!



Aim and background info

This song is for developing the ability to listen and interpret the sounds in our sonic environment. The key ideas are about the main characteristics of the sounds (i.e., pitch, loudness); and also about the effect of traffic noise 'masking' all the positive/interesting sounds we want to listen to. I always like imagining one looking at a nice picture and traffic noise being the equivalent of pouring some black paint on it!

It might be interesting to link positive (e.g. nature) vs. negative (traffic) sounds with the protection of our environment, climate change, etc. Our key objective would be to protect and preserve natural, rich, interesting soundscapes from the effect of polluting, noisy traffic.



Materials

1. **Word Sheet** – Listen To The Sound! - Song Words only
2. **Music Score** of the tune with chords
3. **MP3 Sound recordings** x6
 - a. Listen To The Sound! - The [complete song](#) performed by Frances M Lynch, produced by Herbie Clarke at Birnam Studios, London.
 - b. Listen To The Sound! – [Listen and repeat, 4 x learning tracks](#) to help the children work on the music of the song. They can be used altogether or at different sessions to build the song more gradually.
 - Listen To The Sound! – [Listen and repeat A](#)
 - Listen To The Sound! – [Listen and repeat B](#)
 - Listen To The Sound! – [Listen and repeat C](#)

- Listen To The Sound! – [Listen and repeat D](#)
- c. Listen To The Sound! – [Accompaniment only](#) – sing along once you all know it
- 4. [BSL Video](#) – Listen To The Sound! - The complete song – Frances sings the song with Lauren Lister who is a British Sign Language Interpreter. This is a zoom recorded video.

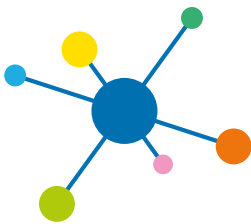


Instructions

You will have your own ideas about how best to use the materials but this suggestion may help:

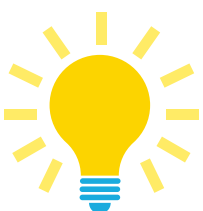
1. Talk about sounds that you can hear at the same time in particular places – eg.
 - a. Outside as for the song, near a road
 - b. In your classroom (the teacher's voice, the birds outside, the murmur of hard work, someone reading a story or playing music) interrupted by the sound of a loud tannoy announcement or break bell!
 - c. At home the sounds of laughter, the hum of the washing machine, the cat purring etc. interrupted by a loud Hoover or adults talking loudly etc...
- Think of the sounds you would want to hear most in each place and then other sounds that might make it impossible to hear the good sounds. **This is called Sound Masking.**
1. Play **the complete song** sound file
2. Learn to sing the song really well – either use the **listen and repeat** sound files or if you are able to do it yourself you can use the **Score sheet with guitar chords**.
3. Show the **song words only** sheet with the pictures of the sounds, talk about where you might hear them and how some are good sounds you enjoy hearing and the masking sound of traffic is not just annoying but bad for the planet – not just noise pollution but environmental pollution.

4. Sing along with **the complete song** track – ask if they can hear all the sounds at the end of the song, and when it stops, what sounds can they hear in the room.
5. Once you are familiar with the song they may like to try it without me! So use the **accompaniment only** or play it on guitar or keyboard and see how you get on
6. Watch the **BSL Video** and join in with the actions – you can follow Frances if you are not used to doing this – or Lauren if you are!
7. **GO FURTHER!** - Why not make up your own song about a particular place where there are sounds you love and then a masking sound that stops you hearing them! Choose from the discussions you had at the beginning of the activity. If you make up a song, or a poem or a story or draw a picture about your own ideas please let Frances know – she'd love to hear it! You can email her at: frances@electrivoicetheatre.co.uk



Engineering career links

Antonio who developed this activity is an acoustical engineer. He works on reducing sound from different types of transport from traffic noise to drones. He knows that such noise can be really annoying and be very bad for you, for example being exposed to too much loud noise can damage your hearing or noise can disturb your sleep and has even been linked with increased stress and heart disease. Other acoustical engineers might design large things like better- sounding concert halls, or small versions of loudspeakers or microphones, e.g. for mobile phones; they might also improve medical imaging, e.g. clearer ultrasounds or design quieter aircraft and cars or improve the design of homes to reduce noise impacts.



Extension ideas

Why not try Antonio's Build a Noisemaker activity or if you want to learn more engineering songs try Sarah's songs about famous 1930s engineer and pilot, Amy Johnson.