Sounds Are All Around

Get Started
Imagine your class is at a basketball game. The game is in full swing and the fans are cheering. In the middle of all this excitement, your class is doing a science investigation. Your task is to observe and record all the sounds you can hear at the game. Take a look at this picture. How many sounds would you hear in this scene?

Work On It

1. In a small group, look closely at the scene in the picture. List all the sounds you would hear. Sort the sounds into two groups: sounds that give people information, and sounds that are part of the environment.

2. With your group, look at the sounds in these two groups. What sounds would you notice if you were at the game? What sounds do you think you would ignore, or block out?

3. Look at the picture again with your list of sounds. Find and record one example of each of the following sounds:
   a. a loud sound
   b. a soft sound
   c. a sound that's meant to give information to one person
   d. a sound that's meant to give information to many people at once

4. Think about some of the different sounds you hear in your everyday life. Add your findings to the list of sounds you made.

Communicate

1. List any questions you have about sound.

2. Discuss what it would be like if there was no sound. How would your life be different?

Build On What You Know
Close your eyes for a minute. What sounds can you hear in your classroom? Write each of these sounds on a card and put the cards in a box—the Sound Box. Look around the classroom. Can you identify what made each sound? Later you will use the sound cards for ideas when experimenting with sound effects.