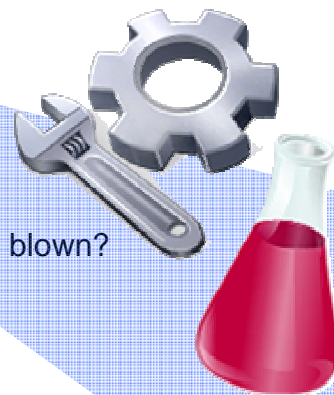


Straw Flutes



QUESTION: How does the length of a straw affect its sound when blown?

MATERIALS:

drinking straw
paper

scissors
transparent tape

PROCEDURE:

1. Flatten one end of the straw with a pair of scissors.
2. Cut off the corners of the flattened end of the straw so that the end comes to a point.
3. Wet the end of the straw with your mouth, and with about 2 cm of the straw still in your mouth, blow through the straw to make a buzzing sound.
4. Practice until you can consistently make a buzzing sound.
5. Once you are able to make your straw buzz, cut about 2 cm off the end and make the straw buzz again.
6. Repeat Step 5 at least two more times, recording what happens to the sound produced.
7. Repeat Steps 1-4. Now lengthen the straw by placing a rolled up piece of paper over the end of the straw and blowing. Describe the sound produced.

DATA:

LENGTH	WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SOUND PRODUCED?
Shorter length	
Longer length	

QUESTIONS:

1. What vibrates to produce the sound in this experiment?
2. What happens to the sound produced if the straw's length is shortened?
3. What happens to the sound produced if the straw's length is increased?