

Name: _____

Date: _____

Hour: _____

Straw Sounds Lab

Materials: Drinking Straw and pair of scissors

Procedure:

1. Chew down the end of a straw so that it's crushed flat.
2. Take a pair of scissors and carefully snip away the corners of the flattened end.
3. The sniped end should produce a reed that looks like a flattened triangle.
4. Place the reed end of the straw into your mouth and blow through the straw to produce noise. This will take some practice and be careful not to touch your cheek or tongue with the straw inside your mouth.
5. Now cut off the end to make the straw shorter.
6. Repeat step five until you cannot make your straw any shorter.

Think:

1. Why did we cut the corners away from one end of the straw?

2. What happened to produce sound?

3. What happened to the sound as you changed the size of the straw?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Hour: _____

Moving on:

1. Create another following steps 1-4 in the procedure.
2. Make two snips with your scissors to carefully place a small opening midway in the straw. Make sure you don't go through the entire straw cutting the tube in half.
3. Cover the hole with your fingertip and blow through the straw.
4. Uncover the hole.
5. Cover the hole again.

Thinking:

1. What happened to the pitch when you uncovered the hole?

2. What happened when you recovered the hole?

3. How can you create different notes?

Create another hole in the straw.

How does the position of the hole affect the instrument's sound?
