

Aural Diversity Lesson Plan



Teacher:

Date:

Subject: PHSE Year group: KS3 and above (this can be converted to KS3 and below however resources may need editing)

Lesson outline	Timings	Key questions
Do now/starter: Questions for class with answers on whiteboards. Optional: write a tally chart of most popular answers on the board.	5 mins	What sounds are nice/enjoyable? What sounds are not nice/enjoyable?
Teaching: Aural diversity key concepts	20 mins	What is sound? What is noise? What is aural diversity?
Independent activity: aural diversity wordsearch	5 mins	
Teaching: Key findings of aural diversity questionnaire	10 mins	What sounds may be challenging for people with aural diversity? What spaces may people with aural diversity find more/less confident?
Small group activity: Read through the 4 example people in the Aural Diversity worksheet and discuss. Feedback to class	10 mins	What does "aural diversity" mean? What kinds of sounds do each of the people find difficult? How do the people cope with challenging sounds? How do you think it would feel to experience sounds differently?
Independent activity: Write/draw design of public park and/or café to support people with different hearing needs	10 mins	What changes would you make to support people with different hearing needs?

Resources: Lesson slides and printable worksheet are available as part of this lesson pack.

Whiteboards and whiteboard pens for Do now/starter. Paper (part of the worksheet) and colouring pens for independent activity.

Aural Diversity Lesson Plan



Young Person's Competition: Further activity

If your students are interested in exploring sound and noise further, the Institute of Acoustics runs an annual [Young Person's Competition](#).

This year's theme, Sound Unleashed, invites students to ask big questions, think creatively, and share their ideas by submitting a short video. Students might explore questions such as:

- How does sound affect the world around us?
- Where does technology help – and where does it fall short?
- How could better sound design improve people's lives, communities, or the environment?

The deadline for entries is 31 July, and winners receive £1,000 per winning entry.

Feedback and sharing students work

Please complete our [feedback form](#) after delivering this lesson so we can continue to improve the resource.

We would love to share examples of students' park or café designs during Noise Action Week. If you would like to participate, please submit a photo of students' artwork after the activity. Photos should show the drawings only and must not include students, names on the work, or any other identifying information.

By submitting images, you confirm that your school is happy for the artwork to be shared by Noise Action Week on its website and social media channels to celebrate students' ideas about inclusive sound environments. When sharing work publicly, we may credit it using the school name and/or year group only (for example, "Year 8 students, Greenfield School").

About Noise Action Week

Noise Action Week and ARUP have developed this lesson based on ARUP and the Aural Diversity Network's [Aural Diversity Toolkit](#).

[Noise Action Week](#) takes place from the 11th- 15th May. It is a campaign to raise awareness and reduce noise pollution across the UK. Noise Action Week is run by the Environmental Policy Implementation Community (EPIC) and supported by leading acoustics and environmental health organisations. For further ideas on lesson plans related to acoustics please email the Institute of Acoustics at stem@ioa.org.uk