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Period: 2

12/3/14

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## Sound Uncovered

You will explore the app "Sound Uncovered" created by a really awesome museum in San Francisco called the Exploratorium. Once you have downloaded the app, start at the "Hear Here" page. You will see that there is a menu of interactive pages and articles. Your task is to explore the app and report on two interactive pages and two articles. Use the guides below to complete your reports.

### **Interactive page #1**

Name: How Old Are Your Ears?

Describe the page: What does it look like and what does it ask you to do?

There is a slider that has different frequencies, 20,000 hertz to 8,000 hertz. There is a button that uncovers age based on hertz.

What is going on? Describe what the activity teaches you about sound.

Your inner ear has microscopic structures called hair cells that are sensitive to particular frequencies and send electrical signals to your brain. The hair cells that detect high-frequency sounds are more susceptible to harm, and when they are damaged or die, your ability to hear the higher frequency pitches go away.

## Interactive page #2

Name: What's Making This Sound?

### Describe the page: What does it look like and what does it ask you to do?

A sound is played from the little page, and when you tap the "tell me" button it shows you what is making the sound. There is a video explanation of the sound with a demonstration.

### What is going on? Describe what the activity teaches you about sound.

Sand dunes are responsible for the strange sound. The activity explains that it is a strange phenomenon where sand piled high in dunes cascade down slopes or avalanches and friction between the grains of sand generate vibrations in an audible range.

## Article #1

Name: Find the Highest Note

### What is the main idea of the article?

To show how using musical octaves can create an illusion of notes that keep going higher forever. (even though they're the same 6 notes)

### Site evidence from the article that supports the claim of the main idea.

The "impossible" staircase is a visual representation of this effect. The six notes are not the same loudness, making it hard to tell how low the tones are.

**Article #2**

Name:

Which Car Would You Buy?

What is the main idea of the article?

Explains how the sounds a car makes are carefully engineered to appeal to buyers.

Site evidence from the article that supports the claim of the main idea.

Sounds produced by cars are proven to be powerful/subliminal impression on people. Sound engineers craft and manage this sound through the mechanics.

**Rate the app "Sound Uncovered"**

Write a review of this app including a rating on the 5 star scale. Include specific reasons for your rating.

I'd give it 10/10, this free app is great to learn and ignite interest in science and how sound works.