



project.org

STUDENT HANDOUT

GREEN LEVEL
MORE SUPPORT

Sound Illusions

Grades 5–8 • Music

ADMIT ONE

NAME

DATE

CLASS

PART 1

01

Your Ears Can Be Tricked!

Just like optical illusions trick your eyes, auditory illusions trick your ears. Your brain interprets sounds — and sometimes it gets it wrong!

Big Idea: Music and sound can be used to manipulate how we feel. Once we know the tricks, we can listen more carefully!

PART 2

02

Listening Activity

Listen to each clip your teacher plays. How does it make you feel? Circle your answer:

Clip 1:

HAPPY

SAD

SCARED

EXCITED

CALM

Clip 2:

HAPPY

SAD

SCARED

EXCITED

CALM

Clip 3:

HAPPY

SAD

SCARED

EXCITED

CALM

PART 3

03

Musical Elements Match-Up

Draw a line to match the musical element to the feeling it usually creates:

Fast tempo



Sad, gloomy

Slow tempo



Excitement, energy

Major key (happy chords)



Calm, peaceful

Minor key (sad chords)



Joy, triumph

04

PART 4

Same Scene, Different Music

Your teacher showed the same video with two different soundtracks.

Version 1 (happy music): How did it make you feel?

Version 2 (scary music): How did it make you feel?

What changed? (Circle one)

THE VIDEO CHANGED

ONLY THE MUSIC CHANGED

MINI MUSEUM CONNECTION

The Mini Museum shows how our EYES can be tricked by old photographs and illusions. Today we learned that our EARS can be tricked too! Both use the same idea: our brains can be fooled.

minimuseumproject.org/exhibitions/seeing-is-deceiving

SHARE WITH YOUR FAMILY

Watch a movie trailer or commercial with your family. Pay attention to the music. Ask: "How is this music trying to make us feel?"