

ZOOM Exhibition

HEAR HEAR! LOOK LOOK! – A hands-on exhibition for kids on hearing and seeing

For children ages 6 to 12

Our eyes and ears are sophisticated sensory organs that capture light and sound waves from our surroundings and process them into images, sounds and even moods. We relax when we hear the sound of ocean waves and take pleasure in watching a glorious sunset. We are alarmed when we hear a loud siren or spot a flashy warning signal. We recognize a smile, understand language, can correctly interpret gestures, and can spot an approaching car in time. Our sense of hearing and vision enable us to master the many tasks of everyday life with ease.

But how do hearing and seeing actually function? What are sound waves and how can we render them visible? Why do we need light to recognize shapes and colors? What role does the brain play in processing sensory inputs? And how can we compensate if one of these senses is impaired?

Children can visit about 15 interactive stations to discover various acoustic and optical phenomena such as the camera obscura, a mirror labyrinth, a Silent Disco or a Yelling Cabinet.

The camera obscura, also known as a pinhole camera, is an old invention that works much along the same principles as photo cameras, film cameras and even our own eyes. The kids can look through a giant camera obscura and observe how it stands the courtyard of the ZOOM Children's Museum on its head. Or they can peek through a camera obscura tube and try to decipher the light patterns on the wall.

In the mirror labyrinth the kids learn the physical principles behind reflections. The task is to find the hidden monster in the labyrinth by turning and moving the mirror into the right position.

People express their moods and feelings with words and gestures. At the same time, we can put ourselves into certain moods with music and movement. In the Silent Disco, kids can listen to music through headphones, let themselves be inspired, and dance to the tunes. Or they can experience the music without headphones only by watching the other kids dance.

“Please keep it quiet” is a sentence that kids get to hear a lot. Children must constantly learn to turn down their own volume. This is a pity, considering how much fun making noise and yelling is – and how healthy it is for normal child development. In the Yelling Cabinet the kids can shout as loud as they can into the microphone. The decibel levels they reach are measured and the kids can see what comparably loud sound sources they have matched. Of course, we also clearly address how important it is to protect our ears from noise pollution.

Beyond these attractions, the exhibition gives the kids an opportunity to dress up as earwigs and spectacled cobras, to experiment with tones, sounds and their own voices in the Sound Room, use a water bell to render sound waves visible, be astounded by optical illusions and the speed of sound, see colored shadows, build a kaleidoscope, experience how sound travels through their own bones, and much more.

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Team

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Facts

Exhibition Dates

March 7 to September 3, 2017

Starting times for private visitors

Tuesday to Friday: 2pm, 3:30pm

Saturday, Sunday, public holidays, and during school vacation
in Vienna (not on Mondays): 10am, 12pm, 2pm, 4pm

Starting times for school classes and groups

Tuesday to Friday: 8:45am, 10.30am, 2pm, 3:30pm

Duration 90 minutes

Admission **Children:** free admission; **Adults:** EUR 5

Bookings Bookings are **recommended** for all ZOOM programs.
Advance bookings are **obligatory**
for groups of more than 10 children.

Please call **+43 (1) 524 79 08** for telephone bookings:
8am to 4pm on weekdays, 9:30am to 3:30pm on
Saturdays, Sundays, on public holidays, and during
school vacation in Vienna. Online bookings can be made
at www.kindermuseum.at.

Director ZOOM Exhibition

Christian Ganzer

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