Musical Wine Glasses!

Supplies

Wine Glasses  Towels or Rags
Pitcher of Water

Instructions:

1 Fill each glass with different amounts of water. We can add and remove water throughout the activity.

2 Use one hand to hold the wine glass by its base. Dip the index finger of your other hand into water and run it along the rim of the glass. You may have to try different speeds and amounts of pressure to get a sound, but you'll know it when you hear it.

3 Experiment with different levels of water and see how the sound changes!

Use your imagination: what other household objects could be used as instruments? Can you imagine a way to enhance that object and turn it into an instrument that musicians would be excited to write music for?

What Happened:

As we run our fingers along the rim of the glass, the energy we put in as motion and friction cause the glass to vibrate. As the glass vibrates, it creates a sound and because each glass has a different amount of water in it, they vibrate differently, creating distinct tones.

*Safety note: Breaking glasses is always possible. Perform this experiment under adult supervision and be careful not to press too hard on glasses.