

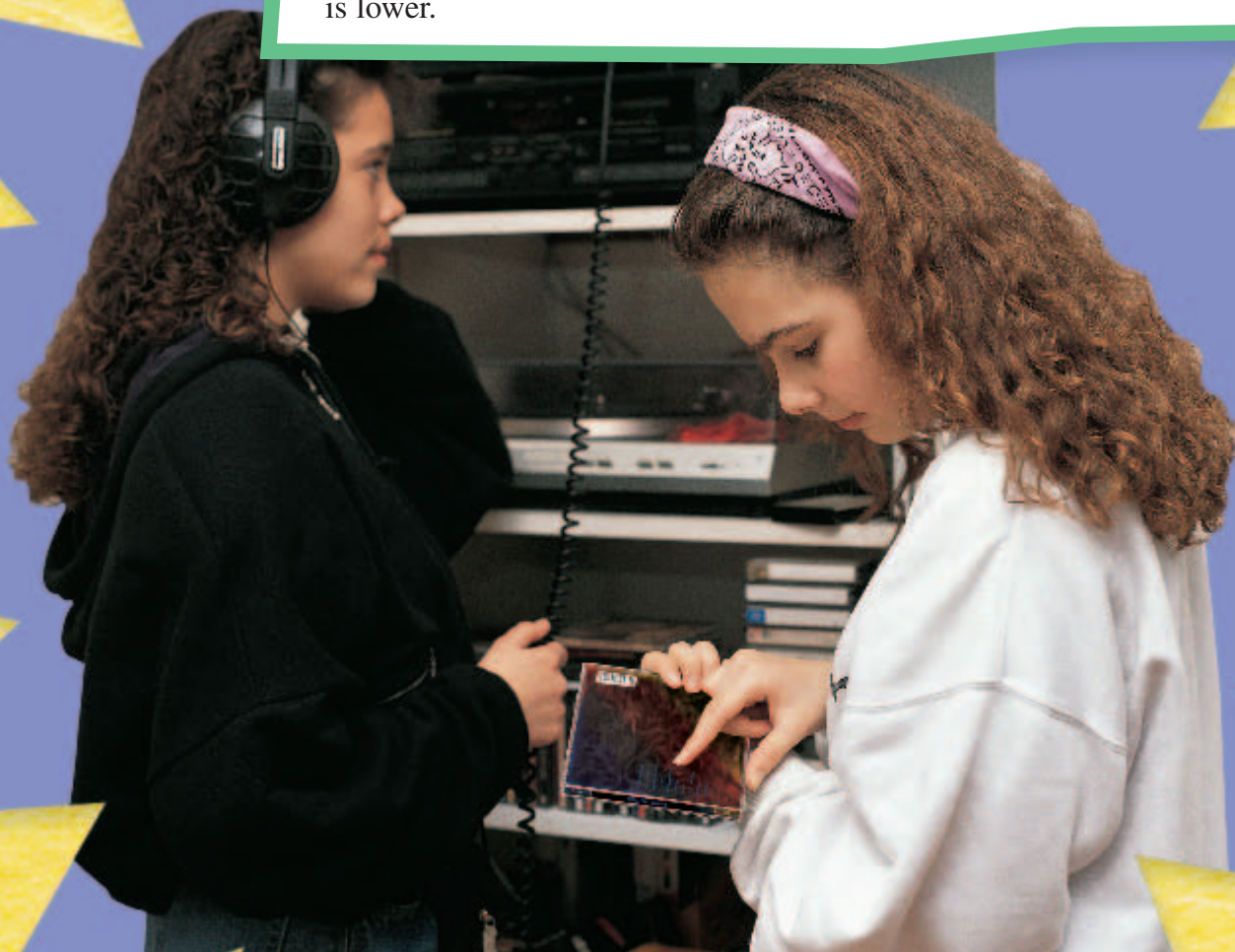
# LOWERING THE BOOM

## Model

Melissa loves music. She plays viola in her school orchestra, and likes to shop for CDs with her friend Janie, who plays cello. Melissa likes to take good care of her ears. When she listens to music, she is careful not to turn up the volume too high.

Janie, on the other hand, likes her music loud. She always wants to turn the volume up when she and Melissa listen to their CDs. Melissa is concerned that the loud music will eventually cause hearing loss. When she talks to Janie about her concerns, however, Janie laughs and tells her she worries too much.

Melissa decides to do some research at her local health clinic. She obtains some pamphlets on noise pollution and hearing loss, and gives them to Janie to read. The next day, when Janie comes to listen to CDs with Melissa, she agrees that they should keep the volume down. In time she discovers that she can actually hear things better when the volume is lower.



## Practice

Did you know that noise is considered to be a form of pollution? Noise pollution causes stress and can damage health. Think about all the sounds you heard on your way to school. Perhaps you heard traffic noise, construction machinery, airplanes, or lawn mowers. There's noise pollution in the home as well. Vacuum cleaners, dishwashers, and food blenders are just a few of the commonly used items that contribute to indoor noise levels.

In small groups, list all the sources of noise pollution that you can think of. Formulate at least three laws that you would like to pass regarding noise. They can be informal laws for the household, or laws for the whole community. With your group, present these laws to the class.

## Apply/Assess

Pair up with another student and create a public service announcement (PSA) that advocates the reduction of noise pollution in the community. Your PSA will have a written script and be two minutes in length. Make your PSA convincing and persuasive. Include information about noise pollution and reasons for reducing noise in homes and in the community.



### Advocacy

Using the skill of advocacy means you

- take a clear stand on an issue.
- provide information that supports your stand.
- persuade others to make healthy choices.
- are convincing.

### Self-Check

- Did our PSA take a clear stand against noise pollution?
- Did we provide information that supports our stand?
- Did our script make a convincing argument for reducing noise?

