If you’ve ever been outside near a large open field in the summer, you’ve probably heard the very familiar sound—the buzzing of grasshoppers. Grasshoppers are common insects around the world, well known just as much for their song as they are their jumping. They make noise very differently from crickets, who rub their wings together. Let’s find out how!

**Materials**
- water bottle with ridges
- playing card or similar object

**Instructions**

1. There are just 2 things that we need to make noise like a grasshopper—a water bottle and a playing card. Look at the water bottle. Notice all the bumps up and down the outside of it? Look at the picture of a grasshopper. Look at its back legs. The bumps on the bottle are just like the bumps on the back of a grasshopper’s legs! What happens when you run your playing card over these bumps?

2. It makes a noise! Can you go very slowly with the card? How about very fast? Does that change the noise your bottle makes?

3. This is just like how a grasshopper makes its noise! Grasshoppers will move their back legs up and down, up and down. This makes the little bumps on the back of their legs rub over the edge of their wings to make a little clicking sound. That’s called “stridulation”. They move their legs so fast though, that it sounds like they are buzzing!

4. Can you find other things in your house with ridges? Do they make a sound too when you rub your playing card over them? Do they sound the same as the water bottle or a grasshopper? See how many different sounds you can find around your house and neighborhood!