

Fans get inside space bubbles for rock concert

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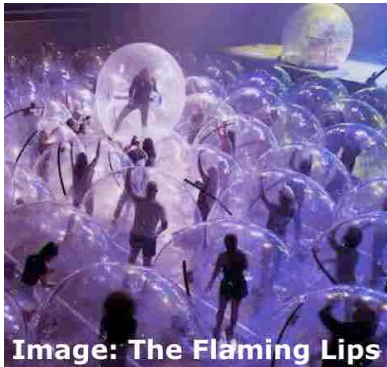


Image: The Flaming Lips

A band has played what is being called the 'World's First Space Bubble Concert'. The psychedelic-rock group the Flaming Lips played to an audience who were all in giant, inflatable plastic bubbles. The bubbles are called

Zorb balls. The band played two concerts in their native city of Oklahoma. All band members were also inside their own Zorb bubble. There were 100 bubbles at the shows. Some of the bubbles contained three people. The bubbles may be one way for concerts to go ahead during the pandemic. Each bubble has a special speaker, a water bottle, a battery-operated fan, a towel and an "I gotta go pee/hot in here" sign. Workers refill the bubble with cool air if it gets too hot.

The idea for the bubble concerts came from the band's lead singer Wayne Coyne. He often uses a Zorb ball to roll over the crowd during his concerts. He decided that concerts would be COVID-safe if everyone was in a Zorb. He said attending a space bubble concert is "safer than going to the grocery store". He told the Rolling Stone magazine: "It's a very restricted, weird event, but the weirdness is so we can enjoy a concert before putting our families and everybody at risk." He added: "You see people excited, people being happy, and people really having fun....I think it's a bit of a 'new normal'. You might go to a show, you might not, but I think we're going to be able to work it out."

Sources: [loudersound.com](https://www.loudersound.com) / [bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com) / [cbsnews.com](https://www.cbsnews.com)

Writing

We should all have a space bubble so we can stay COVID-safe. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

band / bubble / concert / rock / lips / concerts / pandemic / speaker / water bottle / lead singer / crowd / grocery store / magazine / weirdness / risk / excited / normal

True / False

- a) A solo rock singer performed the world's first space bubble concert. T / F
- b) The singer was not in a space bubble. T / F
- c) There were 100 space bubbles at the concert. T / F
- d) Each bubble had a towel and a fan. T / F
- e) The idea for the concert came from an expert in diseases. T / F
- f) The singer said the concert was safer than going to a grocery store. T / F
- g) The singer said the concert was a wired event. T / F
- h) The singer said the concert was kind of like the 'new normal'. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. band | a. going to |
| 2. audience | b. take place |
| 3. giant | c. concert |
| 4. go ahead | d. concept |
| 5. pee | e. crowd |
| 6. idea | f. strange |
| 7. attending | g. in danger |
| 8. weird | h. group |
| 9. at risk | i. huge |
| 10. show | j. urinate |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What do you think of the activity of Zorbing?
- c) What are the risks of going to a grocery store?
- d) How 'weird' is attending a concert in a Zorb ball?
- e) What's the best concert you have ever seen?
- f) Is it better to see a concert live or on YouTube?
- g) Why do people enjoy going to concerts?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the band's leader?

Phrase Match

1. in giant, inflatable plastic
 2. Some of the bubbles contained
 3. a battery-operated
 4. Workers refill the bubble
 5. if it gets too
 6. roll
 7. safer than going to
 8. putting our families and everybody
 9. I think it's a bit of a new
 10. we're going to be able
- a. at risk
 - b. with cool air
 - c. fan
 - d. normal
 - e. bubbles
 - f. to work it out
 - g. three people
 - h. the grocery store
 - i. hot
 - j. over the crowd

Discussion – Student B

- a) What do you think of rock concerts?
- b) How safe is it to attend concerts today?
- c) What kinds of concerts do you like?
- d) What do you think of the plastic bubble idea?
- e) Would you go to a concert in a bubble?
- f) Do you think the bubbles have other uses?
- g) Do you think a concert in a bubble would be fun?
- h) How has the pandemic affected your life?

Spelling

1. played to an daeceinu
2. giant, tabelfnila plastic bubbles
3. in their iatnve city of Oklahoma
4. the bubbles ncenadtoi three people
5. go ahead during the pnadmeci
6. a berytta-operated fan
7. roll over the wrdco
8. nitagdnet a space bubble concert
9. safer than going to the rcogyre store
10. a very restricted, rewid event
11. we can yjoen a concert
12. a bit of a new lrmnoa

Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. e	3. i	4. b	5. j
6. d	7. a	8. f	9. g	10. c

Role Play

Role A – Heavy Metal

You think heavy metal is the best music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their music. Also, tell the others which is the least pleasurable of these (and why): opera, hip-hop or jazz.

Role B – Opera

You think opera is the best music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their music. Also, tell the others which is the least pleasurable of these (and why): heavy metal, hip-hop or jazz.

Role C – Hip-Hop

You think hip-hop is the best music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their music. Also, tell the others which is the least pleasurable of these (and why): opera, heavy metal or jazz.

Role D – Jazz

You think jazz is the best music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their music. Also, tell the others which is the least pleasurable of these (and why): opera, hip-hop or heavy metal.

Speaking – Music

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Psychedelic
- Opera
- Folk
- Hip-Hop
- Classical
- K-Pop
- Heavy metal
- Jazz

Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	T	e	F	f	T	g	F	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.