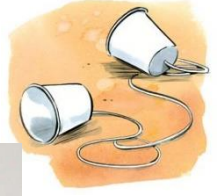


How To Make A String Telephone

Do you want to be able to make a very simple mobile phone? Do you want to be able to communicate with your family at the other end of the garden? Follow these simple instructions to find out how!



Equipment

2 cups (paper or plastic)

a sewing needle

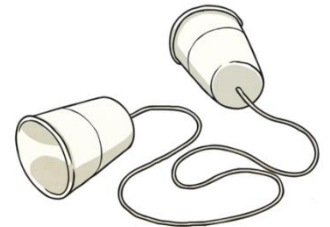
blu-tac or plasticine

10 metres (approximately) of string (kite string works well)



Method

1. Place the cup on the blu-tac or plasticine.
2. Carefully, use the sewing needle to poke a (small) hole through the bottom of each cup. Ask an adult for help if you need to.
3. Through the holes, thread the string and securely tie a knot at each end (to stop the string pulling through the cups).
4. Tell your partner to move away from you until the string is taut (pulled tight).
5. Alternate between talking into and listening in the cup.

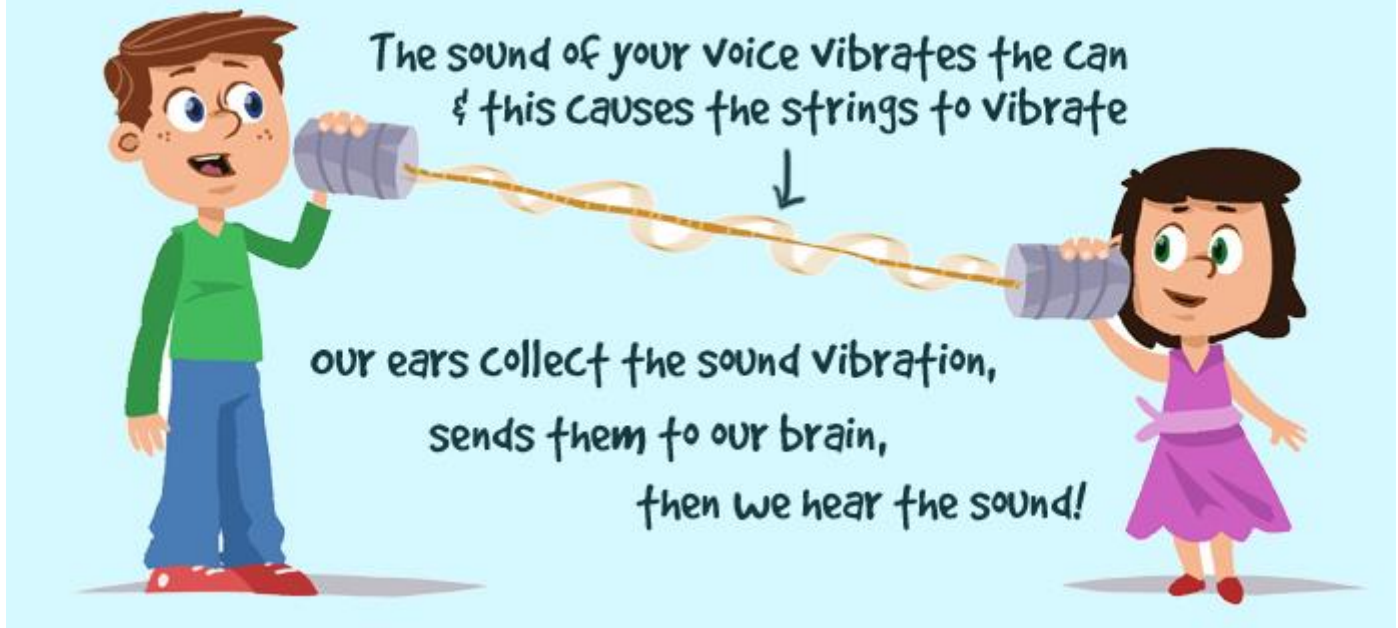


Safety Advice

Take care when cutting the string and piercing the holes.

Make sure the string isn't going to tangle anyone up.

How does it work?



Things to try

- do paper cups or plastic cups work best?
- does string or cotton work best?
- does thick string or thin string make it better?
- is there anyway to make this work around a corner?
- how far can you make it work?
- does the size of the knots in the string make a difference?
- does the size of the cup make a difference?
- can you add more string and another cup for a 3-way conversation (or even more)?

