



# String Telephone



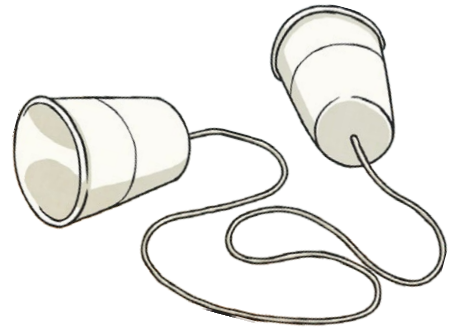
Make a string telephone to explore how sounds travel over a distance.

## You will need:

Two paper cups

A compass or sewing needle to make holes in the cups;

Approximately 20m length of string (kite string works well).



## What to do:

1. Use the compass or sewing needle to carefully poke a hole in the bottom of each cup. You may need to ask an adult to help you.
2. Thread the string through the holes and tie a knot at each end to stop it pulling through the cups.
3. You and your partner should each hold a cup and move apart so that the string is tight.
4. Take turns talking into your cup while your partner listens in their cup.

## How does it work?

Use the key words to fill in the gaps to explain how your string telephone works.

When one person talks into their cup, the cup \_\_\_\_\_. The sound \_\_\_\_\_ of these vibrations passes along the string. The string is a \_\_\_\_\_, so the particles are very close together, and the vibrations can pass \_\_\_\_\_ and easily along the string. The vibrations pass from the \_\_\_\_\_ into the second cup, which also vibrates. These vibrations pass through the air \_\_\_\_\_ into the second person's \_\_\_\_\_, who can then hear the sound of the first person's voice. The sound of the person's voice is \_\_\_\_\_ through the string than it is through the air over the same \_\_\_\_\_.

vibrates                      energy                      string                      solid  
particles                      distance                      ear                      louder                      quickly



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## Answers

When one person talks into their cup, the cup **vibrates**. The sound **energy** of these vibrations passes along the string. The string is a **solid**, so the particles are very close together, and the vibrations can pass **quickly** and easily along the string. The vibrations pass from the **string** into the second cup, which also vibrates. These vibrations pass through the air **particles** into the second person's **ear**, who can then hear the sound of the first person's voice. The sound of the person's voice is **louder** through the string than it is through the air over the same **distance**.



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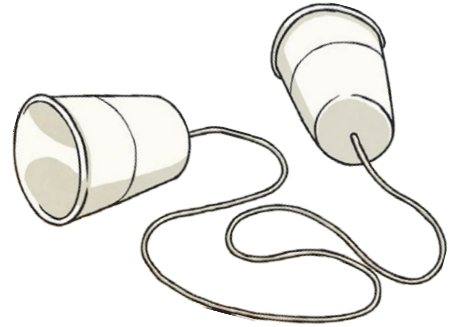
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How does it work?

Use the key words below to help you explain how your string telephone works.

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sound	voice	cup	vibrates	energy	string	solid
particles	close	quickly	distance	ear	louder	air



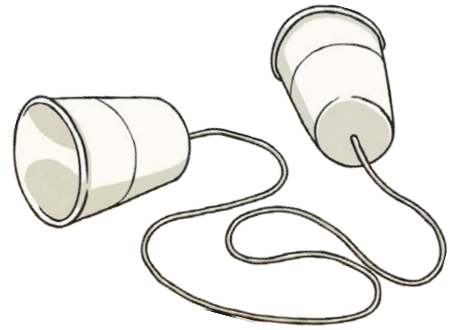
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How does it work?

Write an explanation of how your string telephone works, referring to vibrations and particles.

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