



3E).

String telephone

Can you talk to a friend using just two plastic cups and a piece of string?

YOU WILL NEED:

- Two clean, plastic cups with a small hole in the base of each,
- A length of thin string,
- A match stick to secure the string in the cups

SAFETY:

- The string telephone may be assembled for you.
- Ensure no one becomes tangled in the string.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) Thread one of the ends of the string through the hole in the bottom of the cup and tie half of the match stick to the string to stop it from slipping back through the hole.
- 2) Do the same for the other cup.
- 3) With a partner, each hold a cup and walk apart until the string becomes tight.
- 4) One person holds their cup to their ear and the other speaks into their cup, while keeping the string taut.
The person with the cup to their ear should be able to hear, through the cup, what the other person is saying.
- 5) Swap roles and check that two way communication is possible.

EXPLANATION.

When the person talks into the cup, the sound makes the bottom of the cup vibrate. These vibrations pass along the taut string to the other cup, where they make the bottom vibrate.

These vibrations make the air in the cup vibrate, enabling the person listening to hear what the other person is saying.