

Wonder at the Whipple

How to make a yoghurt pot telephone



This early telephone was made by Ader in the 2nd half of the 19th century. Explore acoustics by making your own yoghurt pot telephone.



Carefully thread the string through the bottom of the cup towards the inside. Gently pull the string through so you have enough to tie a knot



You will need; 2 yoghurt pots (or paper/plastic cups) scissors, string (approx. 90 cm), a sharp pencil, small piece of blutack.



Tie a double knot in the shorter string. Pull the string back gently so the knot is against the inside bottom of the cup. Repeat the process with the longer piece of string and the second cup



Ask a grown up to help make a small hole in the bottom of each cup. Place the blu tack under the cup and then using the sharp pencil pierce a hole through the cup into the blu tack



To use your telephone put your ear into a cup and then ask a friend to speak into the other cup. The string needs to be kept taut. **How is the sound travelling from you to your friend**?