

# CAN YOU HEAR THAT?



GET LEARNING



20 MINUTES



PREPARATION  
NEEDED

## GETTING INTO THE ACTIVITY

Try out a new form of communication, by creating string telephones from cans / cups. Will your message make it to the other end?

For this activity you will need tin cans or paper cups. If using tin cans, please ensure they are clean beforehand and any sharp edges have been removed or covered.

- 1) Decorate your cans / cups so they look good (optional)
- 2) Make a hole in the bottom (middle) of each tin /cup. This should be done by an adult.
- 3) Decide how long you want the string. Cut the string to length and thread it through the hole in the bottom of the can / cup. Tie a knot so the string stays inside the can (the knot should be inside the can).
- 4) Repeat with the other end of the string and the other can / cup.
- 5) Working with a family member, one person holds a can to their ear, whilst the other speaks into the can. Make sure the string between the cans is tight. Can the voice be heard?

Experiment with different string lengths and see how far a message can travel. Can you send a message to someone in a different room? What happens if the string is not tight?

**How does this work?** When you speak into the can you create sound waves. These travel along the string and then into the air inside the opposite can. This is why you can hear the message.



## WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Clean Tin Can / Cup
- String
- Nail / Screw
- Colouring Pens / Craft Materials



## NOTES FOR PARENTS & CARERS

All activity should be supervised by an adult. Please ensure sharp edges have been removed / covered on tin cans. Share a photo of your string telephone with your BB group or post on social media using #BBatHOME. An adult should initiate any contact with the BB group and/or share on social media.