

The String Telephone

By: <http://www.squidoo.com/fun-experiments>

Make A Telephone



A [string telephone](#) does not need electricity to make it work. It works by changing the sound of your voice into vibrations, which [travel](#) along the string. When they reach the other end, the vibrations are changed back into sound again.

EXPERIMENT #12 - OVER AND OUT

When you are using the [string telephone](#), you will have to work out a way of telling the person at the other end when to listen and when to speak. One way is to copy the system that radio operators use. When you have finished speaking and are ready for an answer, you say 'Over'. This is the signal for the person at the other end to speak. When you come to the end of the conversation, you say 'Out'.

If there are three of you, you can make a third string telephone and use it as an extension. Tie the string to the first line in a convenient place.

Things you will need:

1. Three empty plastic pots or cups
2. A ball of thin, strong string
3. Scissors
4. A Pencil

Instructions:

1. Use a pencil to make a small hole in the end of each plastic pot. Thread an end of the string through.
2. Tie a knot on the inside to keep it in place. The plastic pot acts as both the mouthpiece and the earpiece.
3. If you make sure that the string is stretched tight, you can use the string telephone to talk to someone in another part of the room.

The string must be kept tight. If the string is loose, the vibrations from your voice are lost into the air. If it is tight, they cannot escape easily and so move down the string to the other end.