



Virginia 4-H MAKING the Future

*18 U.S.C. 707

Making a String Telephone - Handout

Make a String Telephone:

- Use a push pin to poke a hole in the bottom of 2 cups.

Safety note: Adults should supervise the use of sharp pushpins.

- Cut a length of string and thread it through the hole in each cup.
- Tie a paper clip on the end of each string, on the inside of the cup.
- Find a friend, walk apart until the string is tight then talk through the inside of your cup while they listen on their cup.

Ask yourself. . .

- What happened?
- How did the sound of your voice travel?
- How else can sound travel?



What happens if you. . .

- Use fishing line instead of string?
- Hold the string when you talk?
- Change the length of the string/line?
- Let the string become loose when you talk?
- Use a different sized cup?
- Use a plastic cup instead of a paper cup?
- Try to make a 3-way call?

Ask yourself again. . .

- What surprised you?
- What worked well?
- What would you change?
- What else could you use?
- Why did you choose the items that you chose?

Did you notice. . .

- If you touch the string while you are talking it is the same as muting the line?
- If the string becomes loose it is the same as hanging up on the other phone?

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