



JOTA-JOTI AUSTRALIA

Activity Description



Activity Type	Indoor Activity
Name of Activity	Tin Can telephone
Estimated Duration	15 minutes
Age Range	8-10, 10-14

Introduction	This is a great activity for JOTA preparation or a quiet activity in the corner of the hall during the JOTA weekend.
--------------	--

Principles of the Activity	Youth members can make a communication device and then practice their listening skills and patience while waiting for other people to finish speaking. A great introduction to the way radio works.
----------------------------	---

Procedure	Have each youth member bring 2 cans. Purchase a roll of fishing line and supply a hammer and nail. Print out the attachment and follow the step by step instructions.
-----------	---

Options	After a patrol or two have made them you could play a large game of Chinese whispers as there would be a large distance between people and it will practice their listening and speaking clearly skills.
---------	--

Equipment	2 cans per person, roll of fishing line, roll of duct tape, some small nails, and a couple of hammers
-----------	---

Revision #	Page 1
1	<u>Tin can telephone - 5 - 10yrs.docx</u> template

Tin Can Telephone

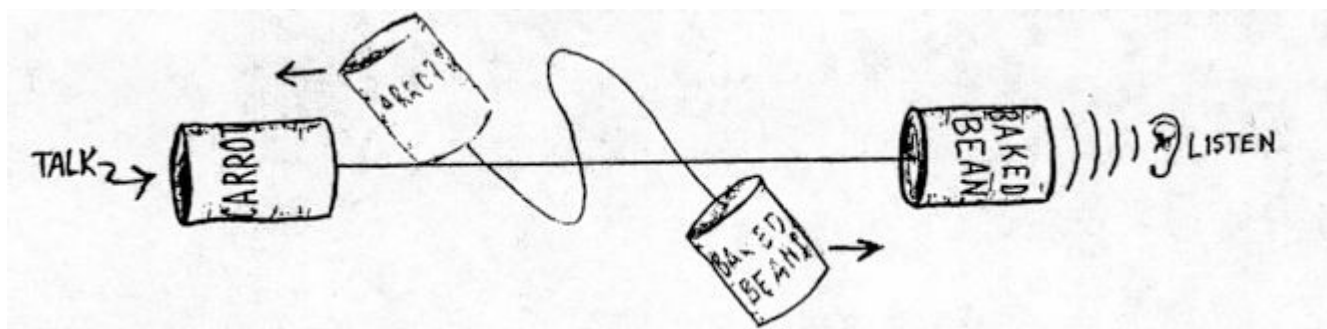
Do you get in trouble for spending too much time talking to friends on the telephone? Here is a fun way to find out how sound travels and talk to friends at the same time.

What You Need

1. An adult to help
2. Two metal cans, clean and dry (Be sure that there are no sharp edges)
3. 3-5 metres of a small diameter string such as kite string or nylon string

What You Do

1. Make a 'Tin Can Telephone' by punching a small hole in the bottom of each can. Each hole should be just large enough so that the string will go through.
2. From the outside, insert one end of the string into the hole in one can. Tie a couple of knots in the end of the string so that it will not slip back through when pulled tight. Do the same with the other end of the string using the other can.
3. With one person holding each can, stretch the string so that it is tight. One person talking into one can sends vibrations through the tightened string to the other can. The person with their ear to the other can will be able to hear what was said.



Why it Works

When someone speaks or makes a sound, the air ripples or vibrates. The word 'vibrate' means to move up and down, or back and forth rapidly. Our ears collect the sound vibration or sound waves and send them to our brains. Then we hear the sound.

When you pull the string tight and talk into one of the cans of your tin can telephone, the sound vibrates across the taut string to the other can. The person at the other end of the telephone hears your message after his or her ears collect the sound vibrations and send them to the brain to be processed.

Some people think that Alexander Graham Bell himself experimented with a tin can phone. This old-fashioned device is easy to make and use. It's also a remarkably rewarding project, because it works so well. Sound causes each tin can to vibrate, and this vibration runs along the string connecting the two tin cans. You will be surprised at how much fun a tin can phone can be.

Revision #	Page 2
1	<u>Tin can telephone - 5 - 10yrs.docx</u> template



JOTA-JOTI AUSTRALIA

Activity Description



Revision #	Page 3
1	<u>Tin can telephone - 5 - 10yrs.docx</u> template