



NAME: _____

DATE: _____



ACTIVITY INSPIRED BY

Dennis and Reggie's Wild Ride!

MATERIALS

- ★ Two paper (or plastic) cups
- ★ 20 feet of string or yarn
- ★ Sharpened pencil or pen
- ★ 2 people to test the phone

PAPER CUP TELEPHONE

Did you know that sound travels in waves, through the air, or across other objects? Test this out by making a paper cup telephone.

ACTIVITY
WOW TO:

- 1 Use the **tip** of a pencil to poke a small hole at the bottom of each of your 2 cups.
- 2 Thread your **string** through the hole of one cup and tie a knot in the string on the inside of the cup to keep it in place.
- 3 Thread the **other end** of the string through the bottom of your second cup, securing it with a knot on the inside, too.
- 4 **Standing apart** with the string pulled taught, take turns whispering into one of the cups. The other person should be able to hear their voice through their cup on the other end. Important tip: Keep the string of your cup phones taut while testing them out. Test it going the other way!

What in the WOW happened? Sound waves can travel through air, solids, and liquids. When you speak into the cup, the vibrations are transmitted into the string. They continue to travel through the string, as long as it is held taut, to the receiving cup. There the vibrations are transmitted to the air in the cup, around the listener's ear, allowing the whisper to be heard.

