

Feel the vibrations!



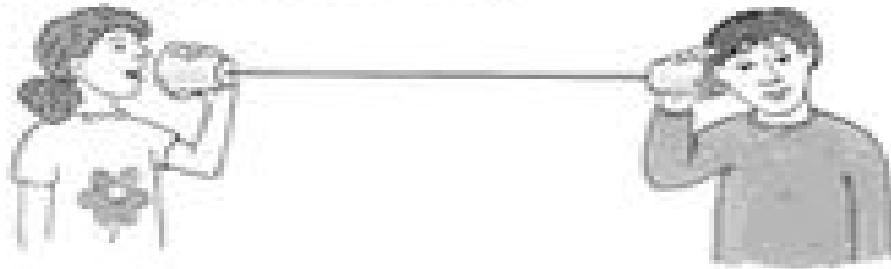
Background knowledge

When a person sings, the vocal cords in the throat make the air vibrate (move back and forth). These vibrations travel through the air to your ears. You hear the vibrating air as sound. Try feeling the vibrations in your throat when you sing. Sound is a type of energy that always travels as vibrations.

Science activity

How can two children using a string walkie-talkie. The sentences below explain how the boy can hear the girl speak, but they are not in the correct order. Write the numbers 1–5 in the boxes to show what the correct order should be.

- The string vibrates.
- The vibrations are heard by the ear.
- The girl's vocal cords vibrate.
- The air vibrates in the girl's container.
- The air vibrates in the boy's container.



Science investigation

- (1) Take extra care – ask an adult to supervise this.
Make your own walkie-talkie with two plastic cups or soup cans and some string or wire. Ask an adult to punch a hole in the top of each. Pull the wire or string through the holes and then wrap the ends around small paper clips or other compact clip-back bobby pins and bend over the prongs to see if a person can hear you through the cup or can. Explain how the sound travels.

