

## Screaming Cup

### You will need:

- Adult help
- Large plastic cup
- A piece of string about 60cm (natural jute, wool or cotton)
- Scissors
- Water or violin resin (optional)

### Let's make it!

Ask an adult to poke a hole in the bottom of the plastic cup large enough to thread the piece of string through. Thread the string through the hole. Tie a knot or two at the end of the string inside the cup to hold the string in place or use a paper clip to secure in place. Wet the string or coat the string with violin resin. Holding the cup in one hand, pinch the string between your thumb and forefinger at the base of the cup (you can use a wet paper towel piece about a £20 note size). Squeeze tight on the string as you slide your thumb and forefinger down the string towards the end. The string will begin to stick and slide between your fingers causing a screaming sound to occur. With practise, making the sound becomes easier.

### How?

Sound is transmitted through the air by vibrations. As you slide your fingers down the string, your fingers stick to and slide along the string. The sticking and sliding happens in short bursts and cause vibrations in the string. The violin resin or water makes the string sticky and increases the sticking and sliding effect which increases the vibrations. The vibrations travel up the string and into the cup, the cup vibrates and the vibrations are amplified as sound by the cone shape of the cup. Larger cups create louder and deeper sounds while smaller cups make softer sounds.

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