



Year of the Rooster

# ROOSTER IN A CUP

Roosters are famous for the crowing noise they make in the morning! They have an excellent internal biological clock, which means they **Cock-a-doodle-do** at the same time every morning.

A rooster's crow can reach 130 decibels, which is about as loud as a jet taking off! To prevent hearing damage, roosters have a clever built-in earplug. When they open their beak to crow a flap of soft tissue partially covers their eardrum to protect it!

This simple sound activity using a paper cup demonstrates how sound can be amplified.

## You'll need

- A plastic or paper cup
- Ribbon
- Paperclip
- Water
- Thick tissue or a paper towel
- Pencil



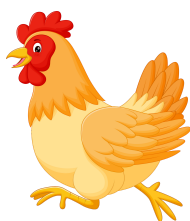
Thread the ribbon through the hole and tie a small knot at the end. The ribbon should be about 30 cm longer than the end of the cup.

Attach the paperclip to the ribbon so it rests on the bottom of the cup.

Wet a small paper towel.

Fold the paper towel around the ribbon and pull down!

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## Why does it make a noise?

The cup acts like a soundboard. Try rubbing the paper towel down the ribbon without the cup attached. There's no noise. The cup amplifies the vibrations created by the movement of the paper towel down the ribbon, making a louder noise than you'd get without the cup.