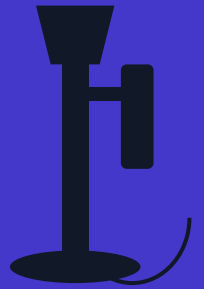
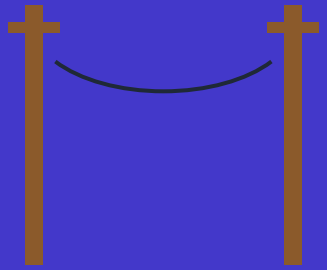


Who was Alexander Graham Bell?



How did the telephone begin?





History · Year 1/2 · Communication

Today we are learning...

Who was Alexander Graham Bell, and how did the telephone begin?

Year 1

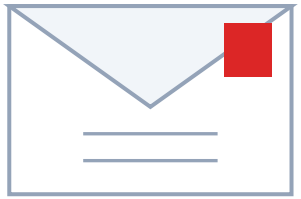
I can name Alexander Graham Bell.
I can spot an early telephone.

Year 2

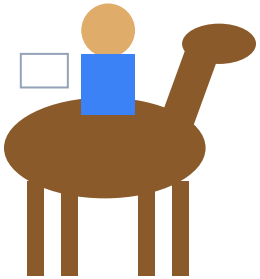
I can explain that the telephone allowed people to speak to each other over a distance.

Before telephones...

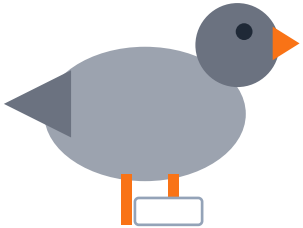
How could you send a message to someone far away?



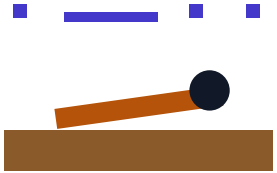
Write a letter



Send a rider



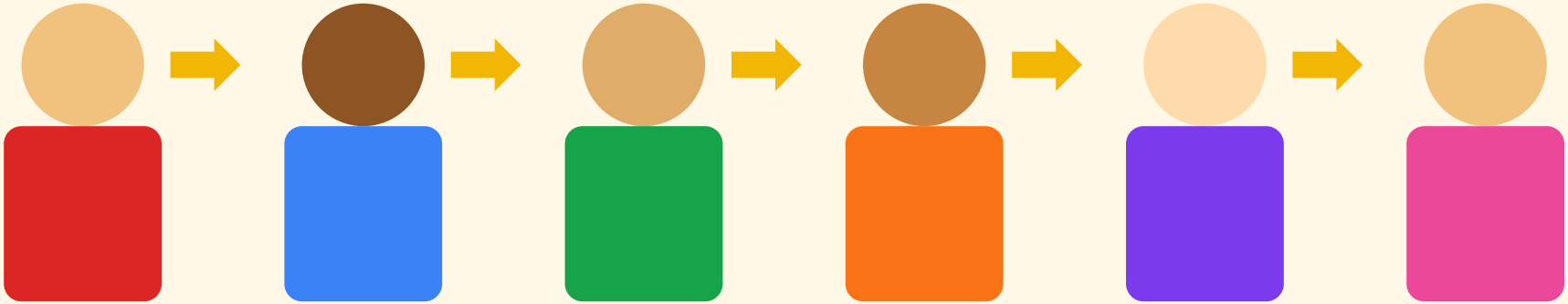
Carrier pigeon



Telegraph code

These could take hours, days or even weeks!

Role play: pass the message!



1. Stand in a long line across the hall or playground.
2. Pass a spoken message from one end to the other.
3. How long did it take? Did the message arrive the same?

Now pretend to phone the person at the end. Which is quicker?

Meet Alexander Graham Bell



- ★ He was born in 1847 in Edinburgh, Scotland.
- ★ His mum was deaf. He became a teacher of deaf children.
- ★ He was fascinated by sound and how voices work.
- ★ He moved to America and became an inventor.

1876: the telephone!



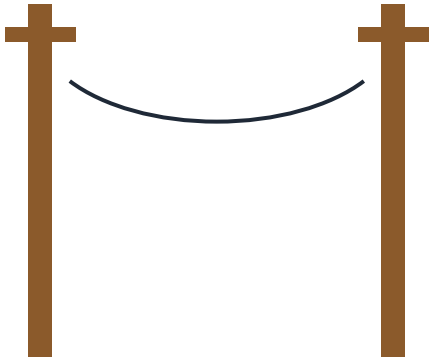
"Mr Watson, come here, I want to see you!"

- ★ In 1876, Bell invented the telephone.
- ★ These were the very first words spoken on a telephone!
- ★ Mr Watson was his helper, in another room.

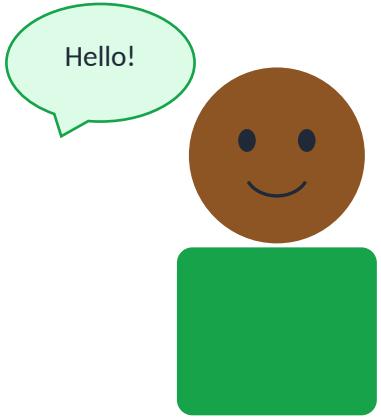
How does a telephone work?



1. You speak



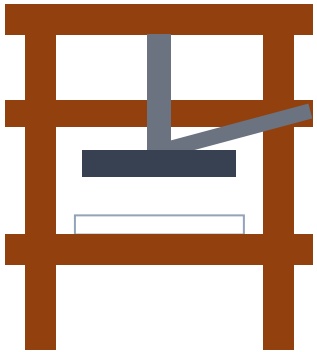
2. Your voice travels along a wire as electricity



3. It turns back into sound far away!

A telephone sends voices over a distance.

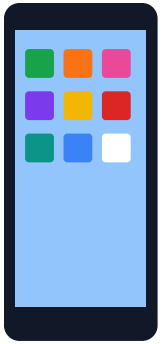
Can you spot the early telephone?



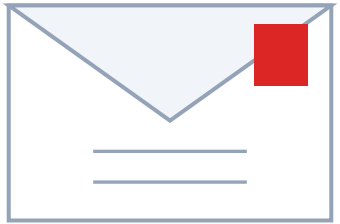
A



B



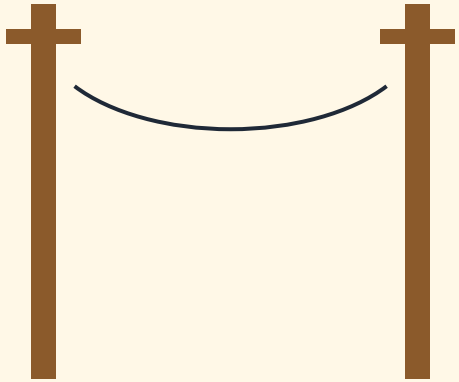
C



D

Point to it! How do you know?

Calling far, far away



- ★ Soon, telephone wires were put up between towns and cities.
- ★ In 1915, Bell made a phone call right across America, nearly 3,000 miles!
- ★ In 1927, people could phone across the ocean, from London to New York.

Video time!



Alexander Graham Bell (Inspire Education)

Click the title to open the video

Watch and spot...

- Alexander Graham Bell
- an early telephone
- Mr Watson
- where Bell was born

Activity: make a string telephone!

1. Make a small hole in the bottom of two cups.
2. Thread a long string through and tie a knot inside each cup.
3. Pull the string tight. One person talks, the other listens!



Then fill in your Alexander Graham Bell fact file (the next slide).

Alexander Graham Bell: fact file

Name: _____



Alexander Graham Bell was born in _____.

He invented the _____ in _____.

The first words on a telephone were "Mr _____, come here!"

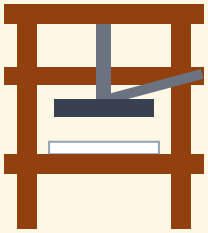
Year 2: The telephone allowed people to _____



Label me!

Word bank: **1847** **telephone** **1876** **Watson** **speak** **far away**

Our communication timeline



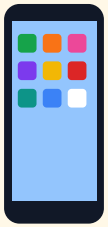
PAST 1476

The printing press comes to Britain



1876

The telephone



1973

The mobile phone



1989

The World Wide Web

Us! 2026

FUTURE?

What have we learned?

Year 1: Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone.

Year 2: Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone, which allowed people to speak over a distance.

Say it to your partner, then say our chant: Communication means sharing information!

Teacher page: lesson plan (about 50 mins)

Time	Section	Slides
0–4	Title, chant, Year 1 / Year 2 goals	1–2
4–8	Before telephones: how could you send a message far away?	3
8–15	Role play: pass the message along a chain, then 'phone' instead	4
15–22	Meet Alexander Graham Bell; 1876; how a telephone works	5–7
22–26	Spot the early telephone; calling far away (1915, 1927)	8–9
26–30	Video (preview first)	10
30–45	Activity: string telephones, then the fact file	11–12
45–50	Timeline and plenary	13–14

Resources: toy phones (optional) · paper or plastic cups, string, a sharp pencil to make holes (adults) · printed fact files (slide 12) · the class timeline.
Facts: Bell was born 3 March 1847 in Edinburgh and patented the telephone in 1876. The first words were spoken to Thomas Watson on 10 March 1876. 1915 was the first call across America (New York to San Francisco). The first proper transatlantic phone call was in 1927 (New York to London), so the unit outline's '1915 transatlantic' date has been corrected.