

# SONIC CANNONS

We can hear sounds and sometimes feel their power. In this activity, we will use tubes to show the strength of sound to move and even put out a candle flame.



Adapted by Patricia Smith, Starbase Oklahoma  
From "Wind, Water, and Wings"  
Minnesota Department of Transportation  
Office of Aeronautics



Supplies:

1. Two Pringles Potato chip canisters
2. Two rubber bands
3. two large paper clips
4. A 3/8" nut
5. Tape
6. One candle

Directions:

- Remove the bottom metal end of the first canister.
- On this canister punch two holes just below the top rim, opposite each other.
- Tie ends of rubber bands to 3/8" nut.
- Attach paperclips inside the tube to other ends of rubber bands.



- ◆ Replace plastic lid under rubber bands, making sure the rubber bands are tight and the nut is outside the lid.



- ◆ On the second canister, punch a 1/4" hole in the center of bottom. In order to make certain the hole is centered, cut a paper insert using the plastic lid as a pattern. Fold circle into quarters and then punch the tip of the quarter circle with a single-hole punch. Cut a rough circle in the plastic lid and place it over the paper circle

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- ◆ hole punch. Cut a rough circle in the plastic lid and place it over the paper circle



- ◆ Remove bottom metal end of the second canister.
- ◆ Place canisters, open ends together.
- ◆ Seal with tape to complete.

You now have a sonic cannon.



Use a burning candle to demonstrate the canon's power.

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