



# 4-H Briefs

Fun ideas to help members and families explore 4-H projects

Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service 4-H Youth Development

## Sounds Like Who?

### FOCUS:

*Communication*- being able to communicate effectively by using voice patterns to share thoughts and ideas.

### LEARNER OBJECTIVE:

To realize the role listening plays in the way we communicate.

### BACKGROUND:

Because verbal communication is the area of main focus, the sense of hearing plays an important role in the communication process.

### MATERIALS:

- Tape recorder
- Blank tape
- Paper
- Pencil
- Friends

### ACTIVITY:

#### Part One:

1. Using a tape recorder, record your voice for about one minute. Play the tape back and see how you react to the sound of your voice.
2. Do the same activity with a friend or a group of friends. Have everybody talk and see if you can identify the different voices.

#### Part two:

Record yourself saying each of the following sentences using the kind of tone indicated:

- *Excited* - "We're going for ice cream!"
- *Mad* - "I don't want to go to bed yet."
- *Disappointed* - "Why can't I go to the ballgame?"

### DISCOVERY:

1. Do you think the voice on the tape sounds like you?
2. What did your friends think about how you sounded?
3. Were you able to identify people by the sound of their voice?
4. Did changing the tone of your voice make each sentence sound different?

### PIECING IT TOGETHER

- Think of two people you know whose voices sound the same on the telephone, how do you tell them apart?
- Think of some times when you should have changed the tone of your voice when communicating with others.

### TRY THIS:

When you are at home, close your eyes and listen to your family talk. Without looking you can probably identify each one simply by the sound of their voice. Now try doing this with a group of friends. As everyone is talking, close your eyes and see if you can identify each person correctly.

Part of vocal quality is how you change your voice when talking about different things. Listen to the vocal quality of a news anchor on a radio or television newscast. Think about how they make things interesting by changing the sound of their voice.

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