



04737 Fuller Road, East Jordan, MI 49727  
(231) 536-3369 | [www.miravenhill.org](http://www.miravenhill.org)  
[info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org)

*Raven Hill Discovery Center is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation.*

**Mission:** Raven Hill provides a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history & the arts.

## Singing spoons

Tie a piece of string onto the handle of a spoon, leaving two long ends on the string. Hold the ends of the string. Let the spoon swing free and hit the spoon gently on the edge of the table. Listen to the sound. Now wrap each string end around a pointer finger and put your fingers (and string) in each of your ears (**like a stethoscope**). Let the spoon swing free and hit the spoon on the edge of the table again and listen to the difference in the sound. This time, try letting the spoon swing free and hit the spoon on another object. Be sure to try each object without the string ends in your ears and then with the string ends in your ears. Which way makes the loudest sounds? Which sound do you like the best? If you have a metal hanger, try using that instead of a spoon or try a bigger spoon. Try a plastic hanger and see how that works. Use your imagination and try other small objects tied to the middle of your string. Try a different kind of string or yarn or a shoe lace. Does that make a difference in the sound coming to your ears?

**NOTE:** The difference in the sounds is –

- When the string ends are in your **hands**, the sound is getting to your ears through the **air—a gas**.
- When the string ends are in your **ears**, the sound is coming to your ears through the **string—a solid**.)



1. Gather supplies



2. Tie a piece of string around spoon.



3. String around fingers & fingers in ears.

Enjoy and be sure to put all your supplies away, when you are done.