

## Rabbit Ears

Rabbits have long, cupped outer ears that help them catch sounds. They can move each ear independently. This allows them to track the direction of a sound without moving their heads. That way they can stay alert while nibbling grass—and keep as still as possible so they don't attract a predator's attention.



### Materials

- ★ a partner
- ★ sheet of paper
- ★ a quiet, open space

1. Stand in a clear area and cup your hands behind your ears. Close your eyes. You are the rabbit. Your partner will act as a predator. Have your partner flap a sheet of paper in a nearby location—from about one long stride away. You must keep your head still. But you can tip and turn your cupped hands around your ears. Move your hands until the rustling from the paper sounds as loud as possible. Open your eyes and look to see where the paper is. Were your rabbit ears—your cupped hands—pointed toward it?
2. Repeat Step 1 twice more. Each time, your partner should take one more stride away from you. Then switch roles and flap the paper for your partner.
3. What did you notice when you were the rabbit?

---

---

4. What did you notice when your partner was the rabbit?

---

---

5. How is human hearing like rabbit hearing?

---

---