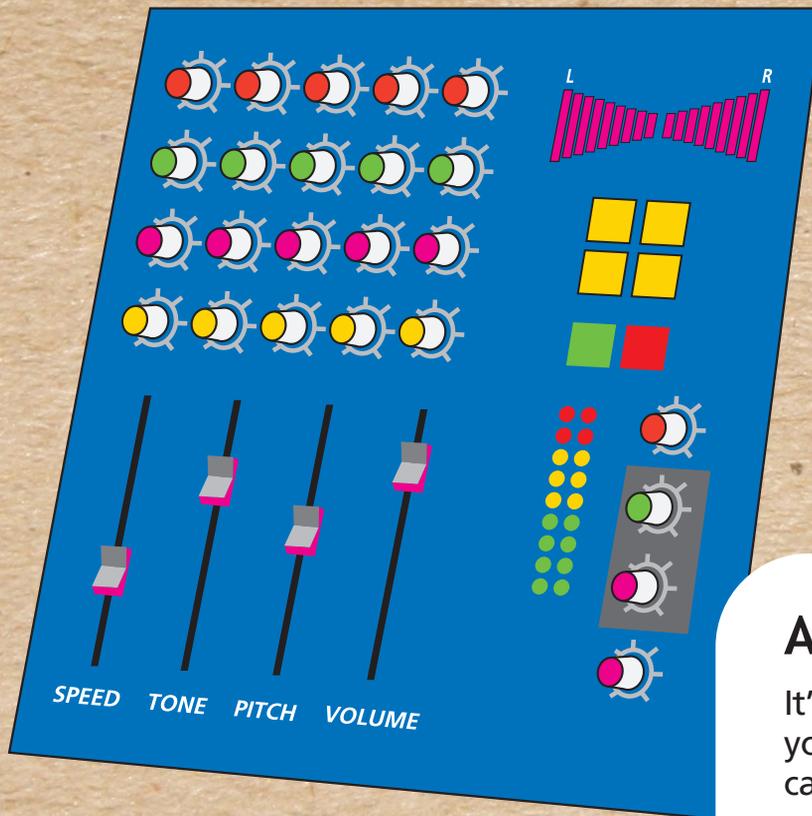




It's not what you say...



Aim of activity

It's not what you say, but how you say it! Your tone of voice can tell people every bit as much as your words – and help them stay interested in your thoughts and ideas.

What you'll get out of it

- Make your speech show your feelings.
- Understand different tones of voice.
- Be creative.

What you'll need

- Pens
- Paper
- 1 or 2 pieces of instrumental music
- A music player
- A speaker (optional)



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding



Communicate

Note to leader

Some popular instrumental music pieces you could use are 'Flight of the Bumblebee', 'The Carnival of the Animals: March of the Lions' or 'Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy'.

Or why not just play the instrumental parts at the start of some songs you like?

What to do

1 Time to get moving! Your leader will play you a piece of music – move or dance around the space when the music's playing to help you experience the speed and mood of it.

2 After a few minutes, stop moving and chat about how the music sounded.

Think about:

- Speed – was it slow or fast?
- Volume – was it quiet or loud?
- Pitch – was it high-pitched (squeaky) or deep?
- Tone – what was its general mood or feeling? For example, angry or upbeat.

3 Music can make you feel things without words. But do you realise you can do this when you speak too? The way we talk can have as much impact as the words we use. Talk about how you might know someone is speaking angrily without understanding the words they're using. Would they sound quiet?

4 Now practise changing how your voice sounds:

- Take turns to stand at the front of the space, facing away from everyone.
- One person will then say 'who am I?' but she should change the pitch and tone of her voice.
- Can the girl at the front guess who it is?
- Play a few rounds.

Top tip

Try out some ideas together before playing the game – how about a low, gravelly voice, or a sloooooow high-pitched voice.

5 Talk about how you used your voice in the game. Changing your voice keeps people interested in what you're saying, like when you're performing a play or telling a story. It can also show people how you feel; if you're feeling tired, you might have a slow, quiet voice. But if you're excited, it would be faster!

6 Finally, play another game to help you practise changing your voice:

- One girl leave the space.
- Everyone else choose a feeling – happy, sad, excited, nervous, confident or powerful, for example.
- When she comes back, the rest of the group say 'the way I'm feeling is', imagining your emotion and changing your voice to match it.
- Can she guess the emotion? Take turns until you've been through a few emotions.