BODDITIES WORKSHEET

Why do our ears pop?

Quick Questions

1. What’s the name of the tube that helps equalize pressure in the ear?

2. What does the tube do to even out that pressure?

Fast Facts

- The tube connects the middle of your ear to your nasopharynx, or the space between the back of your nose and your throat.
- The middle of your ear is filled up with air. When the surrounding air pressure changes — like when you go up in an airplane — your body has to balance that internal pressure.

Activity

Pair up with a partner and talk about places where the surrounding air pressure might be different than what you’re used to every day. What could you do to “unpop” your ears in that situation?
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Answers

1. Eustachian tube
2. opens and closes