

Worksheet Activity: E-mail and Modems

Computers connected to the internet through a modem also use the binary system to send messages. The only difference is that they use beeps. A high-pitched beep is used for a one and a low-pitched beep is used for a zero. These tones go very fast—so fast, in fact, that all we can hear is a horrible continuous screeching sound. If you have never heard it, listen to a modem connecting to the Internet, or try calling a fax machine—fax machines also use modems to send information.

Using the same code that Tom used in the department store, try sending an email message to your friend. Make it easy for yourself and your friend though— you don't have to be as fast as a real modem!