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 e-mail 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!

