Telegraph

History: In 1844, Samuel Morris sent the first long distance telegraph from Washington D.C. to Baltimore, Maryland¹. The telegraph allowed for quick communication over long distances. Before the telegraph, information could only be transferred by letter or by people. The telegraph greatly reduced the amount of time it took to send information². However, the telegraph did have some limitations. To use a telegraph, long electric lines had to be put up between the two telegraph spots. If the electric line had any issues or broke, the whole telegraph would not work. Also, the telegraph could only send bursts of electricity. So, a language called Morris code was invented to be used on the telegraph. Using long and short dashes, Morris code could be sent through the telegraph and allow for the sending of information³.

Materials:

Electrical or Copper Wire

2 Steel or Iron Nail

Two Pieces of Wood

Electrical Tape

Four Screws

Metal Sheeting

Two D batteries

¹ https://www.loc.gov/collections/samuel-morse-papers/articles-and-essays/invention-of-the-telegraph/
³ https://nrich.maths.org/2198
Instructions on building your own telegraph:

https://www.instructables.com/Simple-Telegraph-Key-and-Sounder/

http://w1tp.com/perbuild.htm