Cut a String Without Touching It

Can you cut a string without laying a hand on it—when it is inside a covered glass jar? See how easy it is when you "concentrate" but you must do this on a sunny day!

What to do: Tape one end of the string to the inside of the jar lid. Screw on the jar lid so the string is suspended in the jar. With the magnifying glass, focus the rays of the sun on the string for a few minutes.

Why: The magnifying glass concentrates the heat of the sun on the string. The heat becomes intense enough to burn right through the string.

YOU NEED
- Magnifying glass
- String
- Tape
- Jar

About String
Through the centuries, string and cord, rope and twine have been made from the fiber of such plants as hemp and flax, jute and sisal. Strands of fiber are twisted or braided together. Today we also use synthetic, or man-made materials, like nylon and polyester to make string and rope.