A Big Yawn

Prove yawns are contagious.

THE SETUP
People usually yawn when they’re sleepy or bored. But you can make a normal well-rested person yawn just by looking at you. In fact you can start a yawn epidemic.
You will need:
• people or animals
Make eye contact with someone as you noisily open your mouth in a gigantic yawn. You don’t have to show your tonsils ---a covered-mouth yawn is just as contagious. Don’t worry if you’re a bad actor, a faked yawn usually turns into the real thing. In fact, you’re probably yawning right now.
The odds are very high that your victim will not be able to resist. In a room full of people, the yawn will spread rapidly, even to those who don’t see yawners. Sound alone can spread a yawn.

INSIDER INFORMATION
Yawning is not just for the tired or bored. People will yawn when they are trying to pay attention in a difficult situation or when they are nervous. But, in spite of scientific research, we still do not know exactly why we yawn. The most popular theory is that there is a lack of oxygen in the brain. Yawning is a fast way of taking in a lot of oxygen in one breath. After all, the mouth is bigger than the nose.
More About A Big Yawn
While we don’t know why we yawn, we do know exactly what happens during a yawn. Look closely at a yawning person. The pupils expand, the muscles in the forehead tighten, and the lips push against the teeth.
Yawns can be spread from one species to another. Watching your dog or cat yawn can make you yawn. Interestingly, cats seem to be immune to human yawning. Yawn in front of your dog and sooner or later, it will yawn back.
Research has shown that yawning is most infectious among strangers.