

Water Experiment Calendar

Drop a single drop of food colouring into a glass of water. Don't stir or shake. Just watch what happens. (It's called <u>diffusion</u> .)	Use a medicine dropper to drop water onto a penny, one drop at a time. How many drops will the penny hold before the water spills? (The answer may surprise you!)	Try the same water experiments as #2 with water that has a little detergent in it.	Try the same thing as #2 comparing the heads and tails.	A lump of clay/blu tack/plasticine sinks. Change its shape to make it float.
Dunk sieves and colanders in water. Pour water through funnels. What does the size of the holes have to do with how fast the water flows?	Compare the sizes of containers by filling one with water, then predicting whether another will hold more or less. Test your prediction.	Measure volumes of water using measuring cups and spoons. Weigh measured volumes of water on a diet scale. (Don't forget to subtract the weight of the cup that holds it).	Simulate erosion by pouring water onto a "mountain" of sand or dirt. Experiment to find out whether some soils resist erosion better than others.	Select some household objects. Predict which will sink and which will float. Test predictions at bath time.
Make a boat from a margarine tub. Predict how many pennies it will hold before it sinks.	Test different types of sponges to see which hold more water.	Float an apple in fresh water. Make it float higher by adding salt to the water.	An orange floats, but without its peel it sinks. Build an artificial peel that will enable an orange to float.	Is it easier to move through air or through water?. Do an experiment to find out.
Does sound travel better through air or water? Experiment to find out.	What happens when salt dissolves in water? Make some salt water, then leave it in a warm place for a few days. What happens? Why?	Repeat water experiments #17 with a mixture of vinegar and water. Are the results the same?	Sprout bean seeds in soil. Then give the seedlings measured amounts of water at scheduled intervals. Give one group of seedlings no water, another a moderate amount, and a third a lot. Keep records of growth.	Make a chart showing all the ways your family uses water
Can water move uphill? Cut a strip of coffee filter paper or a paper towel. Hold the strip so the bottom barely touches the surface of the water. What happens? Build a tower of sugar cubes in a shallow dish, then add a little coloured water in the bottom. Watch the result.	"Paint" abstract watercolour pictures by floating some oil on the surface of water. Add drops of different food colours here and there. Place absorbent paper flat on the surface of the water, then lift.	Fill a glass about half full of water. Add salt and stir until you have dissolved as much salt in the water as possible. Colour the solution blue and chill over night. The next day, colour some hot water yellow but add no salt. Tilt the container that holds the cold, blue water and gently pour the hot, yellow water down the side. The solutions won't mix. The yellow layer will float on top of the blue layer. (This happens because the cold, salty water is denser than the hot, fresh water).	Investigate the absorbency of different materials by cutting pieces all the same size, wetting each thoroughly, then measuring the amount of water you can squeeze out.	Measure the diameter and depth of puddles. Record how long they take to dry up. Does size seem related to drying time?
Hang swatches of different types of wet fabrics on the clothesline. Do some take longer to dry than others? Why?	Test foods to see which dissolve in water. Try cornstarch, sugar, butter and nutmeg.	Invent a way to keep an empty cardboard box dry when immersed. Test various designs.	Prop a pocket mirror at an angle into a glass of water and set in a sunny windowsill (or shine a flashlight on it). Tilt the mirror until you find the angle that makes rainbows dance on the wall.	Stir one cup of cornstarch into 1/2 cup of cold water and mix thoroughly. Will the mixture pour? Will it make a ball? What happens when you press your fingers into it?