

WHO KNEW WATER COULD WALK?!

Did you know that water could walk? No it won't magically grow legs and trot off on it's own! This simple but fun science experiment uses the principles of surface tension and capillary action to defy gravity, so that water walks!

Absorbent paper towels form bridges between plastic cups - by using coloured water we can see how the water walks!



WHAT YOU NEED

- Clear Plastic Cups (5)
- Jug of Water
- Food Colouring (3 colours)
- Paper Towels
- Plenty of time!

INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1

Place five cups in a row and half fill every second cup with water, so the 1st, 3rd and 5th in your row. Add a few drops of food colouring to the cups with water in them.

Step 2

Fold each paper towel length ways 3-4 times so that it is long and thin, then fold it in half the other way.

Step 3

Place one end of the folded paper towel into the 1st cup and the other end into the 2nd cup. Repeat this with another paper towel putting one end in the 2nd cup and the other end in the 3rd cup. Repeat until the 5th cup.

Step 4

Now wait and watch what happens! Can you see the water moving into the empty cups? Do the colours mix? If so, what new colours did you get? Why not try it again with a different number of cups? You might even try putting the cups in a circle! Trying out different things is all part of being a scientist!