

Rainbow Walking Water Experiment

Capillary Action

Ingredients

- 5 clear glass (like mason jars) or plastic cups
- Red, blue, and yellow food coloring
- Scissors
- 2 paper towels
- Water
- Spoon



Instructions

Place 5 cups in a row and pour water in the 1st, 3rd, and 5th (odd-numbered) cups. Fuller is better, so fill them about $\frac{3}{4}$ full.

Add 5 drops of red food coloring to the 1st cup and the 7th cup. Add 5 drops of blue food coloring to the 3rd cup. And 5 drops of yellow food coloring to the 5th cup.

Take the paper towel half-sheet (you'll need 6 total) and fold it in half (lengthwise) and repeat the folding process until your paper towel strip is 1-2 inches wide.

Trim off a bit of the length so that there isn't much excess paper towel that will stick up in the air between each cup. This will help the water walk faster.

Place one half of a rolled paper towel in the 1st cup and place the other half in the cup next to it (the empty 2nd cup). Then one from 2nd cup and into the 3rd cup and so on until you reach the end.

Watch the cups to find out what begins to happen. It shouldn't take long before you are able to see the colored water begin to travel up the paper towel.