

SCIENCE MOM'S

Guide to WATER, Part 3

YouTube Channel: Science Mom



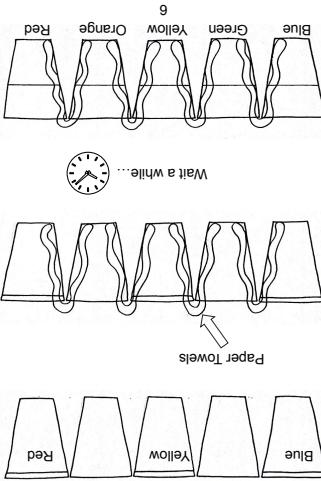
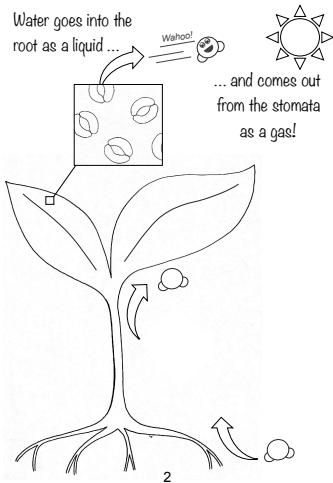
Did you know that plants release water through tiny holes in their leaves?

Water enters the plant at the roots and is drawn up through tiny tubes called **xylem**.

When it gets to the leaves, water evaporates out through small holes or pores called **stomata**, which can be opened or closed.

COOL FACT:

Plants can only get the air they need (CO_2), if their stomata are open. Since their stomata can only be open if they have enough water, that means plants can only breathe when they have water. A wilting plant is, essentially, trying to stay alive by holding its breath.



2. Walking Water

- Water
 - Food coloring
 - 4 paper towels
 - 5 cups

Hint: For each set of

a) Fill 3 cups with water and leave 2 cups empty. Arrange them in an alternating pattern and color the water red, yellow, and blue.

b) Place the paper towels in the cups so that each towel is half way in a full cup of water and halfway in an empty cup.

c) Observe.

d) For each set of cups, use $\frac{1}{4}$ of a paper towel and fold it up to make a narrow strip.

A hand holds a cloth over a tub full of water. A spider hangs from the cloth. The text reads:

Ugh! The tub is full
and a towel is hanging
over the edge!

Move water. Cloth can alsowick water.
Hands aren't the only things that
move water. From one location to another.

THE NEXT DAY ...

AUGH!!

3. Straw siphon

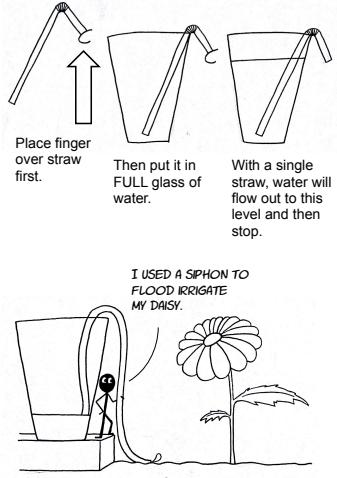
Materials:

- Bendable drinking straws
 - Cup
 - Water
 - Tape or plastic tubing (optional)

Method:

- a) Fill cup to brim with water.
 - b) Put finger over top of straw to seal in the air.
 - c) Submerge the straw into the cup so that the bend of the straw rests on the rim of the cup.
 - d) Release thumb from straw and watch the water flow.

Tip: To make a siphon that can empty the whole cup, use tubing or carefully join two straws together with tape.

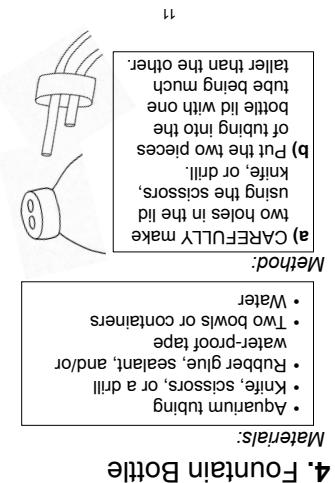
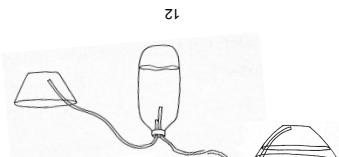
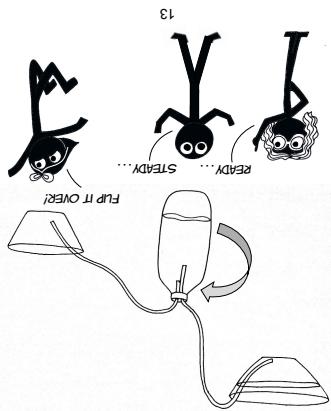
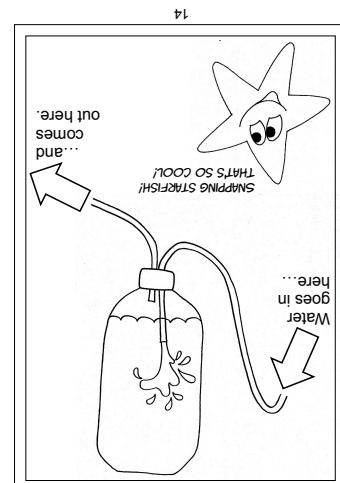
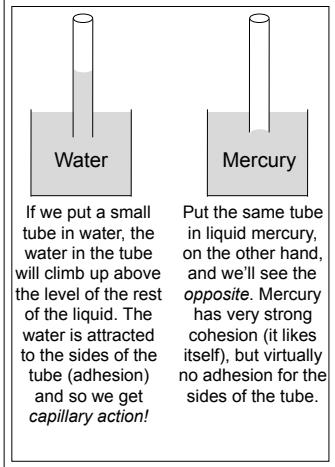


Another cool property of water.

Because water likes to stick to itself and other surfaces, it can flow through small spaces all on its own without the help of pumps or gravity.

Siphons work because of physics. The water is still flowing downhill, even if it goes up over a bump to get there. But with the help of capillary action, water really can flow UPHILL.

Capillary action exists because of adhesion: water being attracted to other surfaces. It plays an important role in both biology (ever heard of capillaries?) and geology (frost wedging and weathering!)



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