FLOAT SINK – WATER SCIENCE

Will it sink or float? Make your best guess and learn about water density.

This week's activity: Saltwater vs Freshwater – Saltwater Grapes

Saltwater vs Freshwater

Suggested Materials:

- 2 bowls (or glasses)
- Tap water
- Table salt or Epsom salt
- Mixing spoon
- Towels (for spills)
- At least 2 small objects (small balls, coins, crayons, buttons – anything you have handy)

Directions:

1. Pour water into your two bowls.
2. Add salt to one bowl and mix (warm water will work best to dissolve salt).
3. Look at the differences in the water. What does the water smell like? Does the water look different?
4. Take two of your same objects and guess whether they will sink or float in each bowl.
5. Place the objects in each bowl and observe what happens.

Did something float when you weren't expecting it to? The salt in the salt water makes the water denser and allows objects to float.
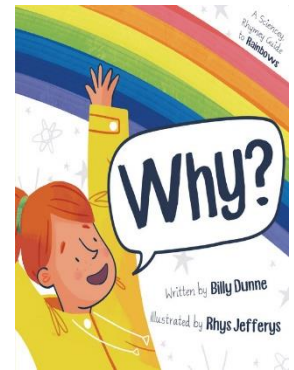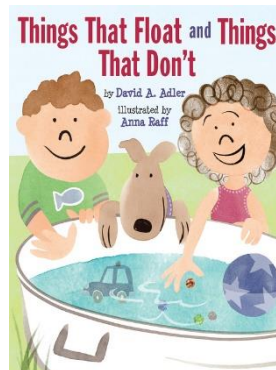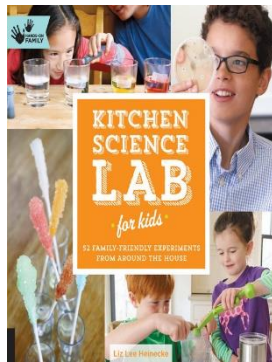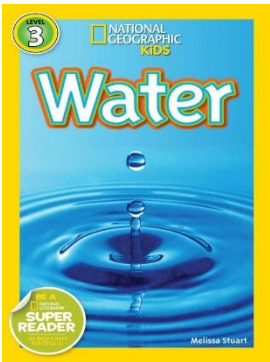
Saltwater Grapes

Suggested Materials:

- Water
- Table salt
- Spoon
- 2 clear cups
- Grapes
- Paper
- Crayons

Directions:

1. Fill one cup about 2/3 full of water.
2. Place a grape in the water.
3. Observe what happens to the grape and draw what you see.
4. Fill the second cup about 2/3 with water.
5. Place your second grape in the water.
6. Add one spoonful of salt and stir.
7. Place the two cups side by side and observe any differences.
8. Continue adding a spoonful of salt until the grape begins to float.
9. Draw your observations.

Links to eResources:

Check out our [eBooks](#) on these topics:

[Water](#) | [Science Experiments](#)

Watch 'The Water Cycle' on TumbleBooks. Do a 'science' TumbleSearch to find books on different scientific topics.

You can get a library card at [hpl.ca/online-registration](#).

If you would like to share one or all your creations, please take a picture and post it to social media using the hashtag, #HPLmakesomething.