

Travelling water

You will need:

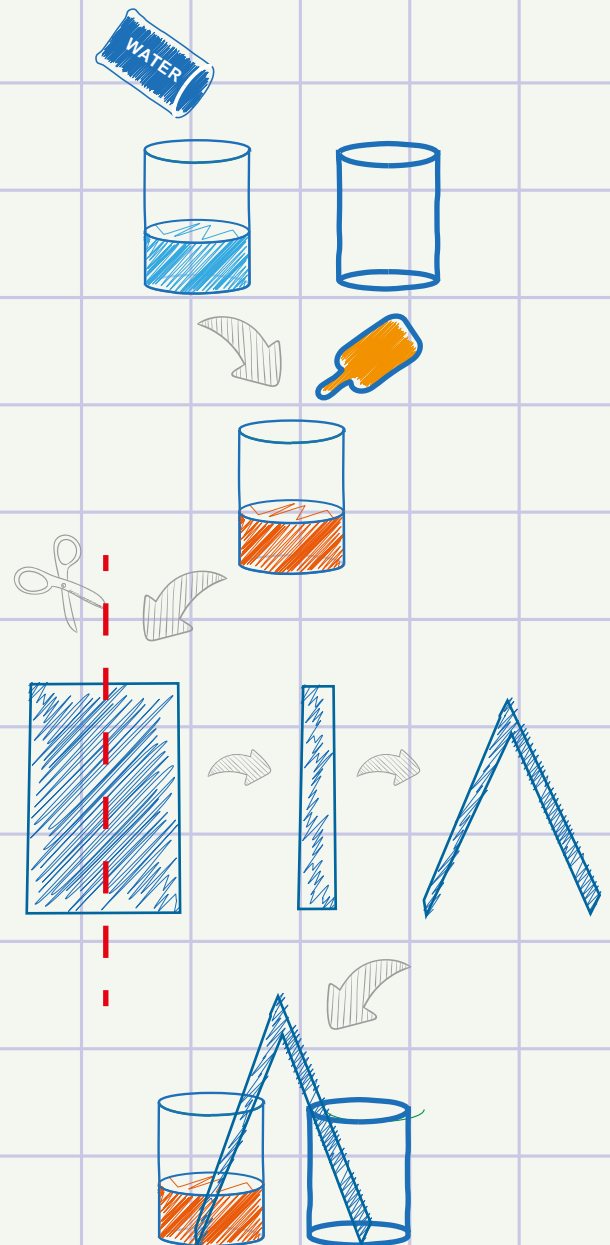
- Adult help
- 2 or more glasses
- Paper towel
- Food colouring (or selection if more glasses)
- 1/2 glass of water
- Mixing spoon

Let's make it!

Pour water into one of the empty glasses. Add your food colouring – about 5-6 drops and mix. Now take a piece of paper towel and cut in half. Fold up a few times so it looks like a fat snake! Put the glass with coloured water next to the empty glass about 4-6cm apart. Take your “fat snake” and this time fold in half. Place one end of your “snake” in each glass so the end of “snake” touches the bottom of both glasses. Now sit back and watch! For best results use 3 or 5 glasses and different food colourings!!! (see drawings).

How?

The water travels up the kitchen roll by a process called capillary action. The water moves against gravity along the tiny gaps within the fibres of the kitchen roll. Water molecules bind to paper through a process called adhesion, but also stay close to each other as they are cohesive. The gaps in the towel acts like capillary tubes (very thin tubes) pulling the water upwards.



Combinations:

