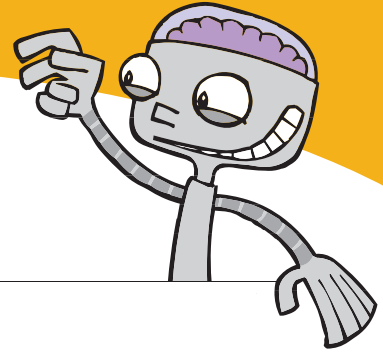


DROP SHAPE



We use water every day to cook and bathe.
Now, let's take a closer look!

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Small amount of water in a small container
- Small amount of cooking oil in a different container
- 3 small pieces of wax paper
- 2 plastic stirrers, plastic utensils, toothpicks, or medicine droppers
- Food coloring

WHAT TO DO

- 1** Spread out the wax paper pieces.
- 2** Dip the end of a stirrer or utensil into the water, or use your medicine dropper to collect some drops. Drip 10 drops of water onto one piece of wax paper. Drip the drops apart from each other so they don't touch.
- 3** Put your face close to the table so your eye is on the same level as the wax paper, and look at the drops from the side. What shape are the drops? Are they more like a ball, a dome or a pancake? Draw what you see.



What happens if you drip several water drops close enough to touch each other?
Try pushing and pulling the water drops with your stirrer. What happens?

ACTIVITY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE (PAGE 1 OF 2)

This activity was modified and adapted from the *Liquid Explorations*
Teacher's Guide published by LHS Great Explorations in Math and Science (GEMS).

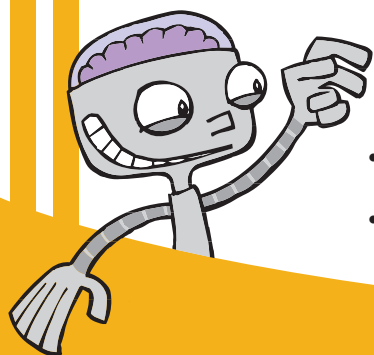
DROP SHAPE (ACTIVITY CONTINUED)

4 Take out your second piece of wax paper. Use your second medicine dropper or dip the end of a different stirrer or utensil into the oil. Drip 10 drops onto the second piece of wax paper. Drip the oil drops apart from each other so they don't touch.

5 Look at the drops from the side. What shape are the oil drops? Draw what you see. Are they any different than the water drops? What happens if you drip several oil drops close enough to touch each other? What happens when you push or pull the drops with your stirrer?

6 Add a few drops of food coloring to your water. On the third piece of wax paper, drip 10 colored water drops and 10 oil drops. Drip the drops close enough so they could all touch each other. What happens? Do the oil and water drops touch? Do they mix together?

7 What do you think happens when a large amount of oil spills into a large body of water? Try mixing 1/2 cup of oil with 1/2 cup of water in a clean container. What happens?



DID YOU KNOW?

- Raindrops aren't shaped like tears, but more like hamburger buns!
- Oil floats on top of water because oil is less dense than water.

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