



FLOATING EGGS

Summer Science Fun

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EXPLORER ACTIVITY SHEET

You Will Need

- a tall, clear plastic container
- a cup of salt or a cup of sugar
- an uncooked, unbroken egg (in the shell)
- spoons
- paper or cloth towels for cleanup
- pitcher of water or sink for filling glasses



What to Do

To start, add water to your container to a depth of 4-6 inches (8-12 cm). Using a spoon, lower an uncracked, uncooked egg into the water. Record what you observe in your science journal.

Work with your group to design an experiment to answer these questions:

- Does adding a *solute* (salt or sugar) to the water change the floating or sinking behavior of the egg?
- If so, what is the least amount of solute needed?

Decide how you're going to run your experiment, and then write a description of your experiment in your science journal. Do the experiment as you have described it, and keep a careful record (perhaps in a data table) of what you do and observe. (Hint: To avoid problems with broken eggs, remove the egg from the water or solution before you add a solute or stir to dissolve it.)

When you have finished your experiment and have answers to the questions (and perhaps more questions of your own), get together with the other groups to exchange information so you can learn from their results and they from yours. Are the results the same? If not, what causes the differences?

Communicating Science

Write and illustrate a brief article for the library or classroom bulletin board that explains what you did, gives your answers to the questions, and supports the answers with evidence from your journal.