

Praxis “Making Science Fun”

Eggsellent Easter – Egg Float

Can you make an egg float?

Materials:

- Water
- Measuring cup
- Straw, popsicle or stir stick
- 3 eggs
- Food colouring
- 3 clear identical drinking glasses
- Tablespoon
- Salt



Procedure: (Remember to be sure to have your parent’s permission and they have the time to watch and help you.)

- Fill each of the glasses halfway with water. Put one egg in each glass. Choose one of the glasses to be the control glass (Glass 1). Control is an experimental term that means that you won't do anything to it and it will give you something to compare the other results against.
- Now, begin adding salt to one of the non-control glasses (Glass 2). Add 3 tablespoons of salt to Glass 2 and gently stir until dissolved. Observe what happens.
- Add 10 tablespoons of salt to Glass 3 and gently stir it. Observe what happens.
- Why do the eggs float at different levels?

What's happening?

This experiment demonstrates buoyancy and how the density of water (due to different salt concentrations) affects it. The denser the liquid is, the greater it's buoyancy and the easier it is to float the egg. The salt makes water denser.

Extension:

Using the measuring cup spout slowly pour tap water down the side of the stir stick or straw into Glass 3 until it is full, but **don't** stir it. The egg is suspended in the middle! This demonstrates what happens when you add fresh water to salty water; similar to our rivers running into the ocean. When you add fresh water to the denser salt water it also floats. You can tell exactly where the salt water and the fresh water meet in the glass by where the egg is floating. You can even use a little food colouring to change the colour of the tap water before you add it to Glass 3 to make the difference more visible. See <http://www.kidcraftsmagazine.com/> for more eggacting science eggsperiments.

This activity is based on our seasonal “Easter” Learning Kit. Our teaching kits (described on our website) are loaned out FREE to provide classroom teachers and parents of home schooled children an opportunity to explore Science in interesting ways. Please consider volunteering as one of our classroom speakers or allow your business as a field trip location.



The next major event that Praxis is involved with is Operation Thoth on April 20th. For more information check out our Praxis website www.praxismh.ca/Thoth.html.

Lorne Cooper, Regional Executive Director

PRAXIS, “Making Science Fun”. Contact Praxis at praxis@praxismh.ca, www.praxismh.ca, Tweet or follow us @PraxisMedHat, or friend us on Facebook. Address: c/o 200 7th Street S.W., Medicine Hat, AB, T1A 4K1 Phone: 403-527-5365, Fax: 403-527-6570.