

DAY 2: WATER DAY EXPERIMENT



Hey there! I'm excited because today we are going to do one of my favorite experiments...and it involves water!

You will need a few materials for this experiment:

- 1) Water/something to carry the water (cup, water bottle, or bucket)
- 2) An outdoor hard surface, like concrete or asphalt. Best if on a slope.
- 3) An outdoor, dirt surface with no plants or grass (dirt path, flowerbed). Best if on a slope.
- 4) An outdoor surface with plants or grass (natural area, dense flowerbed, grassy lawn) best if on a slope.

Okay! Let's get this experiment started! If you take photos, with a parent/guardian's permission, remember to **post and tag YMCA Camp Seymour on social media!** We love to see the results of your experiments!

First, **make a prediction:** What do you think will happen when you pour a full cup/bucket of water onto each of the surfaces? Why?

Prediction: I predict...

Next, the fun part! Take a full cup/bucket of water and pour one full cup onto each of the three surfaces. Use **I notice, I wonder, and it reminds me of** to record your observations, questions, and connections each time. Watch closely...it may take a few minutes to follow the flow of the water!

Hard surface	No plants	Plants

Whoa, that was so cool! Were your predictions correct? Or did you see something different?

So now what? Use what you observed to **make a claim** (I think..._ and **support with evidence** (because...) for these questions”:

- 1) On which surface do you think water would carry the most litter/pollution into Puget Sound?

Claim: I think...

- 2) Which surface do you think would protect Puget Sound best from water carrying litter/pollution?

Claim: I think...



<https://www.fs.fed.us/outernet/pnw/sa/2013/riparian/index.shtml>

Nice job! This is an experiment that shows why in many areas **stream buffer zones**, like the one pictured here, are required alongside our waterways. Shrubs and plants alongside the stream help in many ways, including preventing **erosion**, cooling the water with shade, helping **absorb runoff** carrying pollution, and often catching litter too. This prevents the water from carrying pollution and litter straight into the river/stream, which would eventually end up in Puget Sound and the Pacific Ocean!

The fun doesn't have to stop here! Are there other surfaces you think might also absorb the water as it flows? Try the experiment on other surfaces outside your home and use observations to report back!