

Pipes experiment

Equipment:

- two straws, clear if possible
- two narrow funnels
- stopwatch
- two clear cups
- wet wipe, facial wipe or baby wipe
- cleansing pad
- ruler



Procedure

1. Pour water into each funnel and through each straw into the cups, and time the movement of water.
2. Measure the amount of water that flows into the cups.
3. Stuff the cleansing pad and wipe into one of the straws.
4. Pour water through each straw and time the movement of the water.
5. Measure the amount of water that flows into the cups.
6. Note the difference in time and the amount of water that flows through.
7. Now ask the children to imagine it was not clean water in the straws, that the straws are toilet pipes and the funnel is a toilet.

Expected results

- The timing of the flow of water through the clear, unblocked straws and the amount of water collected in the cups will be even.
- Once one of the straws have been blocked, the timing will be uneven; water will flow through the blocked straw much slower and the amount of water collected will be much less.