



Science Lessons Letter D



Discovery Bottles

Children can explore so many science concepts independently with discovery bottles. You will need clear, clean plastic bottles with labels taken off. You will also need to hot glue the caps on.

Possible ideas: Smell & Tell, Ocean Bottle, Static Bottle, Magnetic Bottle, Wave Bottle, Dirty Bottle, De-Stress Bottle, Tornado Bottle, Magic Bottle, Mystery Bottle and Habitat Bottle.

Dissolving

Water can make some substances disappear!

Give each group of four children a muffin tin, four to six small bowls with assorted dry materials (for example, salt, cornstarch, flour, cornmeal, instant coffee, bouillon crystals), and stirrer sticks. Ask children to predict which materials will dissolve in water and which will not. Have them experiment to test their predictions. Water is made up of tiny, tiny bits called molecules. When something disappears in water its molecules fit in between the molecules of the water. We say it *dissolves*.

Dancing

Dancing Popcorn

Put several pieces of unpopped popcorn kernels in a glass of water. Add one teaspoon of vinegar and one teaspoon of baking soda and watch what happens. Bubbles (air) created by the vinegar and baking soda mixture will carry the kernels up and down the glass of water.

Dancing Raisins

Fill a glass half-way with club soda or seltzer. Quickly put **five** or six raisins in the glass, one at a time. Soon you will be able to see your raisins move up and down, flip and fall into the water. Your raisins will be dancing.

Dandelions

Read: Dandelions: Stars in the Grass by Mia Posada

The author uses rhyme to explain the life cycle of dandelions. She provides facts about dandelions and even a recipe for dandelion salad.

Drops of Water

Water Drop Race

Cover a cookie sheet with wax paper, then put one end of the cookie sheet on a block to make it an inclined plane. Ask each child in the group to mix water with a few drops of food coloring. Invite children to experiment with dropping one drop at a time in the same place. Ask them to note how many drops it takes to make the water roll down the cookie sheet. The droplet needs to become heavier than the air around it. Experiment with different angles. Try adding soap to the water, etc.