

Salty Water and Fresh Water Investigation

Have you ever tasted sea water – it's really salty, not at all like the fresh water we get from our taps. (I wonder why that is? There's a question to research!) Here is an investigation to investigate the difference between salty and fresh water. Use your observation skills and then do a bit of research to explain what happens.

What You'll Need:

Fresh (tap) water
Regular salt
Three large clear glasses (at least 500ml)
1 raw egg, right out of the fridge, still in the shell
Food colouring (optional)

What To Do:

Fill another glass with 250 ml of tap water. Add food colouring (optional).

Gently place the egg in the glass. What happens to the egg – does it float or sink?

Create a solution of salt water by stirring 2 tablespoons of salt into 250ml of water in a glass. Add a few drops of a different colour of food colouring.

Move the egg from the fresh water to the salt water. It should float – if not try adding more salt until it does.

Put the egg aside and **slowly pour the fresh water on top of the salt water. Tilt the glass of salt water as you pour so that the salt water and fresh water don't mix.** (This will be easier to see if you have coloured water.)

Slowly drop the egg into the glass and observe what happens. Can you explain this?

