

Science Experiment

Dripping Wet or Dry as a Bone?

You may need someone to help you with this experiment.

Materials:

- 1 dry sponge
- 1 plate
- 1 spoon
- a cup
- 1 cup of water
- paper and pencil, to keep a tally

Experiment:

1. Squeeze the sponge to check that it contains no water.
2. One spoonful at a time, slowly and carefully pour water onto the sponges.
3. Count how many spoonfuls of water are being added; keep a tally (this is the maths part)
4. After a few spoonfuls, stop the students and think about the following questions:
 - *What is happening to the water?*
 - *Where is it going?*
 - *What do you think is going to happen as you keep filling the sponge with water?*
 - *Can you put water into this sponge forever?*
 - *Will we be counting forever?*
5. Resume adding water to the sponge by the spoonful until the sponge starts to drip water (reaches saturation).
 - *Why is water dripping from it?*
6. When something (air or the sponge) is full (of water), we say that it is saturated. Complete the following table:

How full is the sponge	Number of spoonfuls of water	How saturated
Empty		0%
Half		50%
Full		100%

Explanation

The sponge is like the air. Similar to the sponge air can "hold" water.

Question: *What happens when the air is completely saturated? Think about when the sponge was fully saturated!*

Answer: _____

