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Materials and useful objects





In this chapter

01 Absorbing a spill

02 Water on waxed paper

03 Seeing through glass

04 Blocking the view

05 Shape makes a difference

Materials and useful objects

Absorbing a spill



Find the edge of the spill beside the cloth. What could change after a minute?

THE IDEA

Water enters spaces between cotton fibres. A cotton cloth can take up water from a spill.

CHECK YOUR THINKING

How could you tell whether a dry cloth absorbed some water?

> It feels damp and usually weighs more. Some water has moved into the cloth.

Materials and useful objects

Water on waxed paper



Look at the shape of a single drop on the surface.

THE IDEA

Waxed paper tends to repel liquid water for a time. Drops can bead up on its surface.

CHECK YOUR THINKING

Water stays in a bead on waxed paper. What does that suggest?

> Little of the drop has soaked into that surface during the observation.

Materials and useful objects

Seeing through glass



Look through the glass. Which outlines can you see beyond it?

THE IDEA

A clear material lets enough light through for you to see objects behind it distinctly.

CHECK YOUR THINKING

Why choose clear glass for a closed window you want to look through?

> It lets light through and allows a clear view.

Materials and useful objects

Blocking the view



Imagine placing a red bead behind the board. Would it still be visible?

THE IDEA

An opaque material blocks light passing through it. A wooden board can hide what is behind it.

CHECK YOUR THINKING

Could a thin clear sheet and a thick wooden board both cover a box?

> Yes. Both can cover it, but the wooden board also blocks the view.

Materials and useful objects

Shape makes a difference



Follow one fold around the tray. What holds a small item inside?

THE IDEA

A flat sheet has no sides to hold loose items. Folds can turn it into a small tray.

CHECK YOUR THINKING

Why do raised sides help a paper tray carry beads?

> They stop beads from rolling off the edge as easily.

ONE LAST CHALLENGE

How could you make the test fair?

You put one drop on cloth and ten drops on waxed paper.



THE REVEAL

Use equal drops on equal-sized samples.

Wait the same amount of time, then compare how much water soaked in.

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