

FLOATING EGG

This easy to set up salt water density experiment is a cool variation of the classic sink or float experiment.

INSTRUCTIONS:

STEP 1: Start by filling one glass about 2/3 of the way full with water.

STEP 2: In the other glass, fill to the same height with water. Now stir in 3 tablespoons of salt. Mix well to dissolve the salt!

STEP 3: Now place one egg in each glass and see what happens!

SUPPLIES

2 Tall glasses
(big enough to hold an egg)
Warm water
Salt

THE SCIENCE

Big items that feel light, like a ping pong ball, we would say are less dense, than smaller items that feel heavy, like a gold ring. When added to water, objects that are denser than water sink and those that are less dense than water float. Hollow things often float too as air is less dense than water.

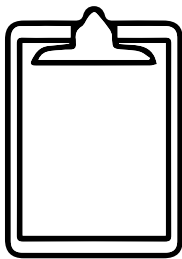
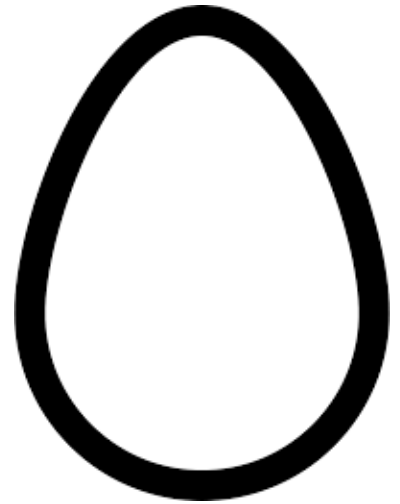
You can experiment with many objects that sink and float in water, but what happens when you add salt to the water? Can you change whether the object, like the egg, still sinks or not?

Adding salt to water makes the water denser. As the salt dissolves in the water, it adds mass (more weight to the water). This makes the water denser and thus allows more objects to float on the surface that would sink in fresh water.



Floating Egg Observations

Use this worksheet to process and evaluate your work.



RECORD

What did you observe?

Would an egg float in regular water? Why or why not?

What happens to the salt when it's added to water?

What did you learn about density?
