

# JR-SCIENTISTS

## ABSORPTION

Water activities are so easy to set up and perfect for young kids to play and learn with science!

### INSTRUCTIONS:

**STEP 1:** First think about which materials might absorb the water and which might repel the water.

Make your predictions!

**STEP 2:** Carefully fill the eye dropper and then squeeze some water onto each material.

**STEP 3:** Record your results. Which items absorbed water? Which ones did not?

### THE SCIENCE

Absorption is a process in which atoms, molecules or ions enter another liquid or solid material. The paper towel, for example, has fibers in them that are made of cellulose molecules that contain lots of tiny sugar molecules linked together. Because cellulose is made of sugar, water molecules rush into these fibers when cellulose and water meet.

Sponges are another example. They are made of loose fibers with lots of space between them. These holes absorb the water, and so the sponge material swells up. When you squeeze the sponge you are forcing the water out of the holes in the sponge.

### SUPPLIES

Water

Food coloring

Eye dropper

Supplies to test

(sponge

cotton balls

napkin

wax paper

foil

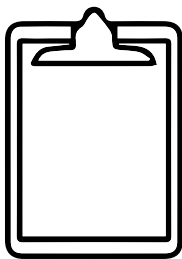
zip lock bag

paper towel

sandwich wrap)

# Absorption Observations

Use this worksheet to process and evaluate your work.



RECORD

What did you see? Did the end result look like you thought?

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Which items absorbed the water?

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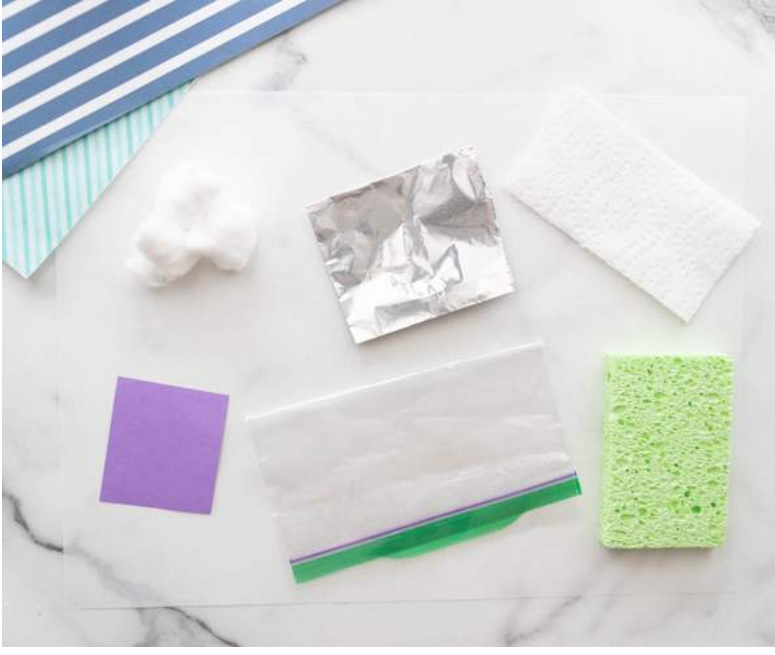
Which items did not absorb the water?

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What characteristics did the materials that absorbed water have in common?


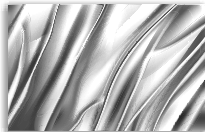



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# DOES IT ABSORB?

Record your results! Add two items of your own to test.

	YES	NO
<b>PAPER TOWEL</b> 		
<b>FOIL</b> 		
<b>PAPER BAG</b> 		
<b>NAPKIN</b> 		
<b>PLASTIC BAG</b> 		
<b>COTTON BALL</b> 