

SMG  
#2

THE WATER'S MOVING FASTER! LOOKS LIKE WE'RE IN A RIVER!

I WAS HOPING FOR A PUDDLE.

SCIENCE MOM

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SCIENCE MOM'S  
Guide to WATER, Part 2

SO WHAT HAPPENS NOW? WHERE DOES ALL THE WATER GO AFTER IT RAINS?

WHO KNOWS? WE COULD END UP IN A PUDDLE, GROUND WATER, OR A RIVER!

Think of a big lake versus a dewdrop. Pretty big difference in size, right?

CRATER LAKE, OREGON

DEWDROP ON A PIECE OF GRASS

The dewdrop is SUPER small compared to the lake. But a water molecule (the smallest bit of water you can have) is MUCH smaller than a dewdrop.

A single drop of water has more than 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 water molecules! That huge number with 21 zeros is called a sextillion, and it is a TRILLION TIMES BIGGER than one billion.

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YAHOO!

THEN SET THE BOAT IN WATER AND WATCH IT GO!

ADD A DROP OF SOAP HERE.

THEN FOLD THE FRONT LIKE THIS:

CUT THE PAPER LIKE THIS FOR THE BACK OF THE BOAT:

GET A SQUARE OF PAPER, PREFERABLY CARDSTOCK.

2. Soap Boat

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One touch of soap, and the pepper shoots to the edges of the bowl!

a) Place water in bowl and sprinkle with pepper.

b) Add a touch of soap to the surface of the water.

c) Watch the pepper scatter!

Method:

Materials:

- Bowl or plate
- Ground black pepper
- Concentrated dish soap
- Water

1. Pepper Scatter

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GOOGOL? ISN'T THAT THE NAME OF AN INTERNET SEARCH ENGINE?

THAT'S WHAT I SAID.

NO, YOU SAID GOOGOL.

THAT'S GOOGLE.

HUH?

JUST GOOGLE GOOGOL AND YOU'LL FIGURE IT OUT!

How long to count that high\*

How many zeros

11 days	6 (1,000,000)
31 years	9 (1,000,000,000)
31,704 years	12
31 million years	15
31 billion years	18
31 trillion years	21
317 trillion centuries	24
Don't be ridiculous!	100

A googol is bigger than the number of PARTICLES in the UNIVERSE.

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LET'S TALK ABOUT BIG NUMBERS

3. Floating Pin

Materials:

- A small pin or needle
- Bowl or cup
- Concentrated dish soap
- Water

Method:

a) Fill bowl or cup with water and carefully place pin on surface. Hint: tweezers may help. The pin must be flat with the surface of the water. It will sink if it comes in at an angle.

b) Add a touch of soap.

c) Watch the pin sink!

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A touch of soap at the edge disrupts the surface tension, and a second later the pin sinks!

IT'S LIKE MAGIC!! DO IT AGAIN!

4. Floating Paperclip

Materials:

- Paper clip
- Tissue paper or paper towel
- Cup or bowl
- Water

Method:

a) Fill the cup with water and gently place a piece of tissue paper on the surface.

b) Carefully place a dry paperclip on the tissue.

c) The tissue should sink. If it doesn't, give it a gentle push downward.

Tip: be sure that the cup and water are not soapy.

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Idea:

IF IT WORKS WITH A PAPERCLIP, HOW ABOUT SOMETHING BIGGER, LIKE A FLOATING COUCH!

Reality:

THE SURFACE TENSION OF WATER IS ONLY 72 DYNES PER CENTIMETER!

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THAT'S SO COOL THAT PART OF WATER IS POSITIVE AND THE OTHER HALF HAS A NEGATIVE CHARGE. THERE'S GOT TO BE A WORD FOR IT. I WONDER WHAT IT IS?

IT'S CALLED POLARITY!

COOL SCIENCE WORDS

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But WHY do water molecules want to be by each other?

Because opposites attract!

Positive loves negative. Each water molecule is part positive (+) and part negative (-). Hydrogen bonds (H<sub>2</sub>O) form between the positive and negative sides.

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Question:

How many drops of water can you fit on a coin before the water spills off the side?

Answer:

A lot! The molecules on the surface pull in, creating a dome of water on the coin. Wow!

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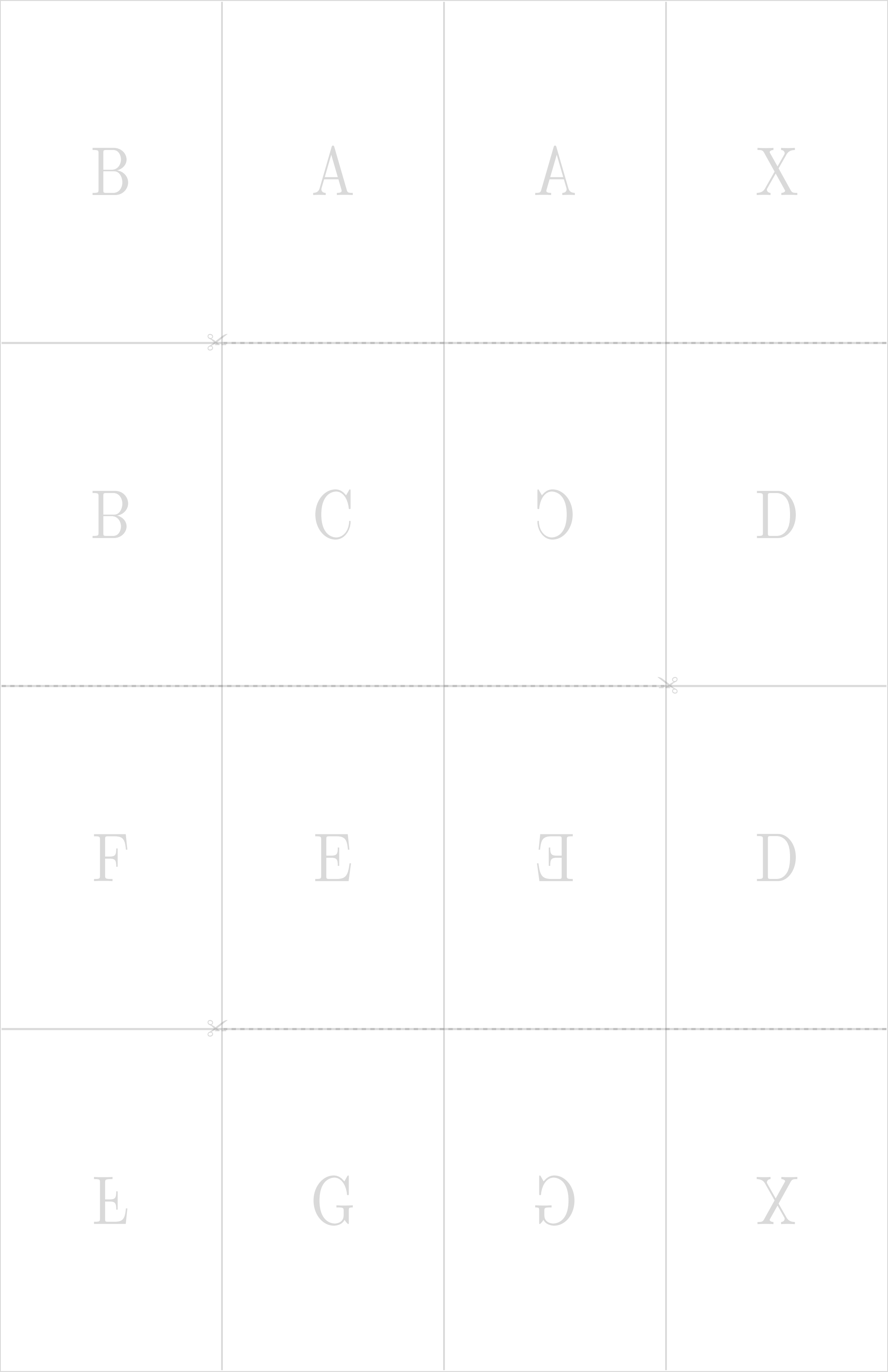
Water molecules like each other more than they like air, so the molecules on the surface bond more tightly to their neighbors. This creates surface tension, which helps raindrops stay together and allows us to fill cups above the brim, or make a dome of water on a coin.

Water in the middle: BALANCED FORCES.

Water on the surface: UNBALANCED FORCES.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Surface Tension.



B

A

A

X

B

C

C

D

F

E

E

D

E

G

G

X