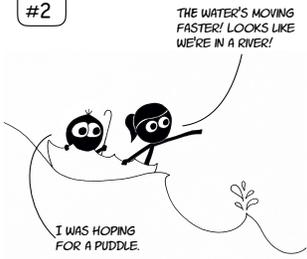
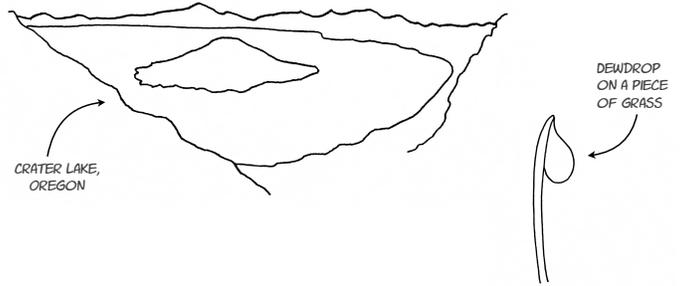


# SCIENCE MOM'S Guide to WATER, Part 2



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



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 water molecules! That huge number with 21 zeros is called a sextillion, and it is a TRILLION TIMES BIGGER than one billion.

**SCIENCE MOM**  
— JENNYBALLIF.COM —  
[www.youtube.com/ScienceMom](http://www.youtube.com/ScienceMom)

### 2. Soap Boat

**Method:**

- Place water in bowl and sprinkle with pepper.
- Add a touch of soap to the surface of the water.
- Watch the pepper scatter!

**Materials:**

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

### 1. Pepper Scatter

**Method:**

- Place water in bowl and sprinkle with pepper.
- Add a touch of soap to the surface of the water.
- Watch the pepper scatter!

**Materials:**

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

### LET'S TALK ABOUT BIG NUMBERS

Name	How many zeros	How long to count that high*
Million	6 (1,000,000)	11 days
Billion	9 (1,000,000,000)	31 years
Trillion	12	31,704 years
Quadrillion	15	31 million years
Quintillion	18	31 billion years
Sextillion	21	31 trillion years
Septillion	24	317 trillion centuries
Googol	100	Don't be ridiculous!

\*Assuming a rate of counting one number per second.

GOOGOL? ISN'T THAT THE NAME OF AN INTERNET SEARCH ENGINE?  
THAT'S WHAT I SAID.  
THAT'S GOOGLE.  
NO, YOU SAID GOOGOL.  
JUST GOOGLE.  
HUH?  
GOOGOL AND YOU'LL FIGURE IT OUT!

A googol is bigger than the number of PARTICLES in the UNIVERSE. Don't be ridiculous! 31 trillion years 31 billion years 31 million years 31,704 years 31 years 11 days

### 3. Floating Pin

**Materials:**

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

**Method:**

- 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.*
- Add a touch of soap.
- Watch the pin sink!

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:**

- Fill the cup with water and gently place a piece of tissue paper on the surface.
- Carefully place a dry paperclip on the tissue.
- 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.

**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!

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!

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.

**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!

**HOW DOES IT WORK?**

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.

B

A

A

X

B

C

C

D

F

E

E

D

E

G

G

X