

PROJECT: TOILET AND NON-TOILET PAPER



Accompanying videos to watch before lesson:

Elementary:	Wipes clog pipes (children's version)
Middle and HS:	Will it flush?
All Grades:	The Fatberg, Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG)

Take notes or write down any new words or concepts you learn from the videos here:

INTRODUCTION

This lesson was crafted to help students understand why some solids are designed to go down the drain and others are not. The goal of the lesson is to help students think more critically about “what happens to our dirty water after it goes down the drain?”

In this activity, students will:

- Build comfort with close observation of wastewater.
- Observe how different forms of solids behave when submerged.
- Predict what might happen to certain solids after they go down the drain.
- Make informed choices about what we each put down the drain.

MATERIALS

- Two clear plastic or glass containers with lids. Recycled food containers work great! Try cleaned jars of: peanut butter, salsa, jam, tomato sauce, or juice.
- One square of toilet paper.

- One equal sized piece of paper product that is not designed for the toilet. This could be any type of wipe, tissue, a napkin, a paper towel, etc.
- Scissors to cut your wipe, paper towel, napkin, etc so that it's the same size as a square of toilet paper.
- Water.
- Piece of paper for sketching.
- Pen, colored pencils, crayons

MATERIALS PREPARATION

1. Make sure you have a space away from your computer that you can work. We don't want our water too close to our electronics.
2. Prepare your containers. Wash and remove enough of the label that you can see clearly into the container.
3. Fill both containers half-way with water. Seal with the lid. You want a jar that seals tightly!
4. Make sure they are watertight. Give each container a shake to make sure that water does not spill out of them.
5. Prepare your other supplies. Gather your toilet paper, "non-toilet" paper, and sketching supplies together.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place the toilet paper in one water jar and the tissue, napkin, paper towel, or disinfectant wipe in the other water jar.
2. Shake each jar for 30 seconds. Observe the different materials and how they act in the water.
3. Sketch each jar noting how the materials have dispersed or not. Don't forget to fill in the blank for the type of non-toilet paper you used below.



