

The Challenges – Teacher Resources

Does Water Really Move Through a Plant? – Teacher Information Sheet

This may be used as an engaging activity to assess students' background knowledge of how water moves through plants.

Materials

- Student Prediction Sheet
 - Food coloring (dark colors work best)
 - Vase or jar
 - Water
 - Light-colored cut flower* (carnation or daisy)
- *You might choose to use a celery stalk instead of a cut flower.

Directions

1. Fill the vase or jar about half full of water.
2. Add several drops of food coloring to the water and mix.
3. Put the cut flower (or celery stalk) into the vase of colored water.
4. Pass out Student Prediction Sheets.
5. Have students predict and record what they think will happen to the colored water and flower or celery.
6. Periodically check and record observations throughout the day.

Student Response Questions

- Short response
Explain how plants take in water to their system.
What do you think you will see if you cut the stem or a leaf of the flower?
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Name _____

Does Water Really Move Through a Plant?

Student Prediction Sheet

Write your prediction before the activity. After each observation, place a check mark in the appropriate column: did not happen, will not happen, or may still happen. Write your proof or evidence for each check mark. Revise your prediction if needed.

My prediction	Did not happen	Will not happen	May still happen	Proof or evidence