



## Soaking Sponges

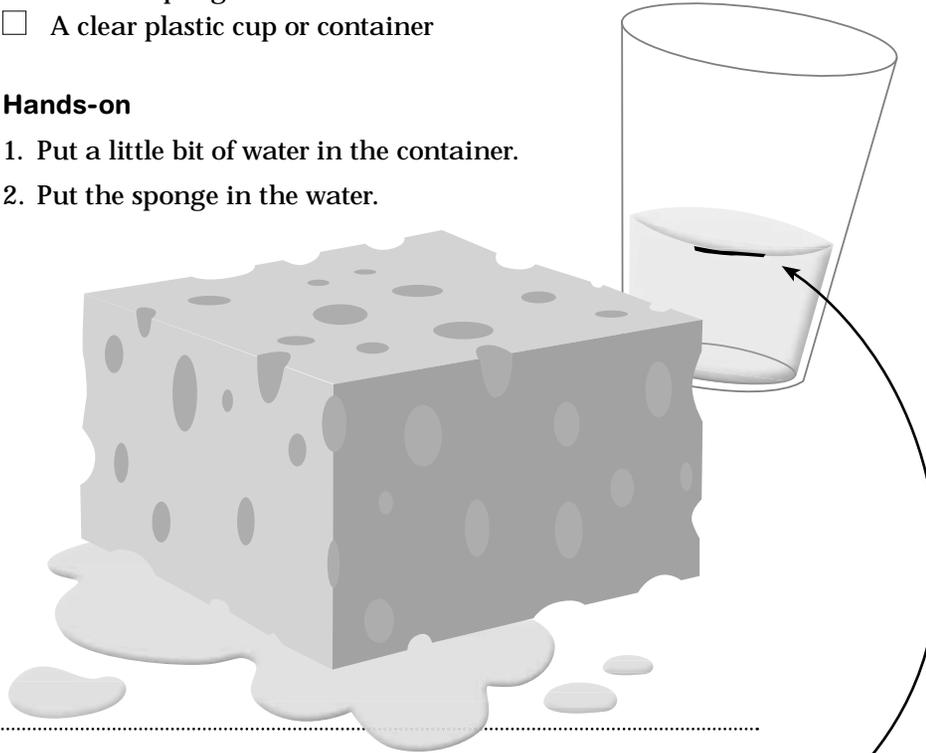
A sponge can absorb water. The water clings to the sponge and fills up the holes in the sponge. You can squeeze the sponge to release the water (but you can't squeeze it completely dry!)

### What you need

- A small sponge
- A clear plastic cup or container

### Hands-on

1. Put a little bit of water in the container.
2. Put the sponge in the water.



### Hint:

Experiment with sponges and wet fabric in the bathtub, or on laundry day

### What next?

- Mark the original level of the water on the side of the container. Once you soak up the water with the sponge, can you get all the water out again?
- Try soaking up water with different kinds of cloth, for example nylon from a jacket, a washcloth, fleece.... Which ones can soak up lots of water?
- Can you squeeze the water out?
- Hold wet cloth in front of a fan or hang it in the sun. What kind of cloth dries quickly? What kind dries slowly?



### Questions to ask

Where did the water go?

Can you soak up all the water?

Can you get the water out of the sponge?



### Looking for More?

Online:

More science activities for young children can be found at:  
[www.scienceworld.ca/preschool.html](http://www.scienceworld.ca/preschool.html)

This website has short videos, games and activities for 3–5 year olds:  
[www.peepandthebigwideworld.com](http://www.peepandthebigwideworld.com)

Our favourite books:

*Science Play* by Jill Frankel Hauser  
ISBN 1-885593-20-1

*Science Arts* by MaryAnn F. Kohl and Jean Potter  
ISBN 0-935607-04-8