

Rainbow Walking Water Experiment



1 What you need-

7 clear cups

Water

Red, yellow, and blue food colouring

Paper towels

3 Add Red Food Colouring

Add 5 drops of red food colouring to:

The 1st cup

The 7th cup

5 Add Blue Food Colouring

Add 5 drops of blue food colouring to:

The 5th cup

7 Watch the Magic!

Over time, the coloured water will “walk” along the paper towels into the empty cups.

2 Set Up the Cups

Place 7 cups in a row.

Pour water into the 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th cups.

Fill them about $\frac{3}{4}$ full (slightly fuller can work even better).

Cups 2, 4, and 6 should stay empty

4 Add Yellow Food Colouring

Add 5 drops of yellow food colouring to:

The 3rd cup

6 Add Paper Towels

Fold paper towels into strips and place one strip between each cup, connecting them.

The colours will mix to make new colours:

- Red + Yellow = Orange
- Yellow + Blue = Green
- Blue + Red = Purple

Children observe capillary action (how water moves through materials) and colour mixing.

