

Oil Spill Investigation

Task:

Develop a method for cleaning up an oil spill using the materials provided.

Student Jobs:

Reporter – What did you find out?

Recorder – How well did it work?

Runner – What materials were used?

Referee – How much time did it take for the plan to work?

Materials:

Coffee Filters Cotton
Sand Straws
Styrofoam Pipettes
String Baby Powder
Dish Soap Matches
Tin Pie Pan Motor Oil

Procedure:

- 1. Provide students with a tin pie pan.
- 2. Pour water into the pan
- 3. Put drops of oil on top of the water
- 4. Devise a plan(s) to clean-up an oil spill
- 5. Write down your observations for each plan
- 6. Keep a record of the time for the plan to work
- 7. Write a summary describing the method that worked best



1. Pour water into the pan. Put drops of oil on top of the water. Write in the box your plan(s) for cleaning up a simulated oil spill using the materials provided.	
2. Write down your observations for each plan. What effects does it have on the oil spill. Keep a record of the time for the plan to work.	
Time	Observation
	1

3. Write a summary describing the method that worked best. What is your evidence?