



Exploring 4-H at Home



Science and
Technology

Pillar: Science & Technology

Activity: Water Cleanup Relay

Overview

Everyone needs water to stay healthy; plants, animals and humans too! Where does your water come from? Sometimes though, water can get **polluted**. This means that things we should not be drinking get into the water, like super small plastics or great big sticks. Can you think of some **pollutants** you wouldn't want to drink? In this activity, you will have to race against the clock to clean up a bowl of water!

Instructions

What you need:

- Two bowls (one large, one small)
- Cooking oil
- Soil, sticks, leaves and other natural materials
- Strainer
- Outdoor space

Instructions:

1. Collect some soil, sticks and leaves from around your community.
2. Fill a large bowl with water, then add in the oil, dirt, sticks and leaves. What other pollutants can you add?
3. Set the smaller bowl far away from the first. Leave it empty.
4. Run from the empty bowl to the polluted bowl. With one scoop of the strainer, collect as many pollutants as possible. Race it back to the empty bowl, dump them, and repeat!
5. You have 60 seconds to clean the water up as best as you can. Make things interesting by racing against a family member or making teams!

What happened?

Was it easy to clean the water? Would you drink it now? What was hard to clean up? What was easy? Do you think it is easier to keep our water sources clean or clean water after it has been polluted?

Material	Easy or Hard to Clean Up?	Why?

Don't forget to post a picture of your relay in action on the 4-H Saskatchewan Exploring 4-H At Home Page and use #exploring4hathome