

Water Surface Tension 3

Experiment:

To make a mini microscope using a single drop of water.

Materials:

You will need:

- Book with fairly small print
- Jar of water
- Small piece of clear plastic
- Eyedropper



Method:

1. Place the clear plastic over the print in a book - we used an Irish reader! The plastic is to protect the book.
2. Using an eye dropper, place a single drop on to the plastic.
3. Move it about your book and observe what happens. Raise the plastic over the print and see what happens.

Result:

The print is bigger when seen through the drop of water. Why?

Conclusion:

Firstly, the water stays as a drop thanks to our old friend - surface tension. Now, light from the book passes through the drop but as it hits the water, it slows down and therefore is bent. As it bends, it forms a lens and the words in the book appear bigger.