Watch the demonstration and write your observations. Be sure to include a sketch as part of your observation.

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Glue this side down into your science notebook.

Liz LaRosa

5th grade science

www.middleschoolscience.com

2009

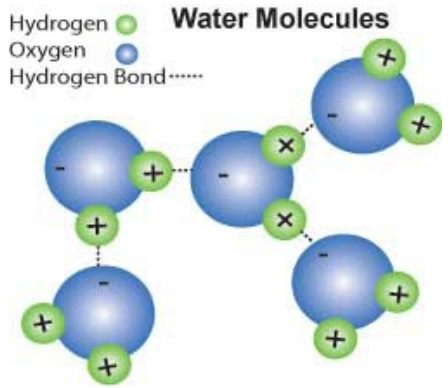
What is Surface Tension?

Fill in the blanks:

stick water Oxygen surface drops rains Hydrogen liquids

Surface tension is a special property of _____. It is a force that acts on the particles at the _____ of a liquid. Surface tension can make some liquids form spherical _____ like beads of water that form on leaves or other surfaces after it _____.

_____ has surface tension. Water is made of two atoms of _____ and one atom of _____, H_2O. The Hydrogen atoms have a slightly positive charge and "_____" to the slightly negative Oxygen atoms of surrounding water molecules.



Problem:

How can we make a paper clip float on top of a glass of water?

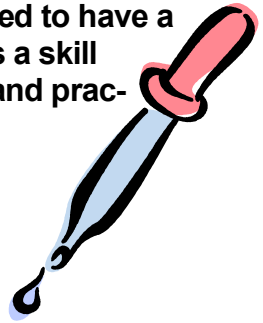
Can more than one float at the same time? If so, how many?

What happens to the paper clips if the surface tension breaks?

Practice:

Tomorrow we will do our surface tension experiment.

In order for the lab to be successful, you will need to know how to use a pipette and release uniform drops of water. You will also need to have a steady hand. This is a skill that takes patience and practice.



Are you up for the challenge?

You will need a pipette and a cup of water. Can you get 10 drops in a row?

How about 20 drops? 30 drops?

What is the most number of drops before you need to refill your pipette again? _____

Explain what surface tension is in your own words and what you learned from today's demonstration.

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