



A DROP OF WATER
by
Walter Wick

This amazing book is filled with spectacular photographs which capture the essence of water. One of my special mentors, Ron Perkins, began one of his workshops by pouring water back and forth between two cups. It was such a soothing demonstration that one could fall asleep.

Then he shared the following activity — we all were wide awake again - and taught each one of us how to do it successfully. We were told to go back to our classrooms and give it to our students as a challenge! I did, and the students loved the activity.

MATERIALS: 2 plastic cups, 1 piece of cotton string 60-100 cm (24-30 inches) long, tape, water.

ACTIVITY: Tape each end of the string securely to the bottom of each cup. Fill one cup about half-full of water. Soak the string in cup with water for at least 15 minutes. Raise one cup about 1-2 feet higher than the other with the string stretched out between the cups. Start pouring the water slowly down the string. **MAKE SURE THE STRING IS COTTON AND WET!**

TEACHER NOTES: I use the flexible, short, wide Solo™ cups. I tape the cotton string to the side of the bottom of each cup. When the cup is tipped, the string should lay along the inside of each cup so that the water can travel down the string

to the inside of the lower cup. I hold one cup above the other and slightly apart. The string should be taut! Since water molecules demonstrate such cohesive forces, they stick to each as well as the water molecules in the wet string as they travel down the wet string to the bottom cup.

SOURCE: Ron Perkins: Educational Innovations, Inc.: 1-888-912-7474. Online: www.teachersource.com

WEBSITE: www.un.org/waterforlifedecade World Water Day is celebrated every year on March 22nd. The United Nations General Assembly, in December 2003, proclaimed the years 2005 to 2015 as the International Decade for Action 'Water for Life'. Scroll down to KIDS CORNER and click on "Splish and Splash Video". Try the other activities, too.

STANDARDS:

BSL: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.6, 1.9, 1.13, 11.2, 12.5, 12.7

NCTM: 10a

SCS: A1, A2, B1, B2, D1, H2, H4

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