

ACTIVITY 2

This activity suits individual s or groups Age 8+

HOW CLEAN IS THE WATER?

TASK

To construct a water filter and test it on river, lake or seawater

EQUIPMENT

For each group : paper towels, waxed carton with holes in bottom, 2 plastic bottles with tops, 2 plastic trays, a funnel, gravel, sand, water, soil and water based paint,

ACTIVITY

Follow and adapt the instructions to create and test an effective water filter. Which water was the cleanest?

1. Place the paper towel at the bottom of the carton.
2. Add a 5 cm layer of gravel above the paper.
3. Add 10 cm layer of sand directly above the gravel.
4. Fill both plastic bottles with test water
5. Pour one bottle of water through the filter. This can be repeated by pouring water back into the bottle using a funnel.
6. Compare the two bottles - which water is cleanest?

Try adding soil or a little water based paint to the Water. Does the filtered water still run clear ?.

Try the effect of adding other water pollutants to test water such as oil (use edible oil) or detergents (use washing up liquid).

