Lesson 1.3

Activity Sheet

Name _____ Date _____

Absorbency Test

1. In the demonstration, which material was absorbent – **Wax paper** or **Coffee filter**? __Coffee Filter_____

ACTIVITY

Question to investigate:

Which material absorbs or does not absorb water: paper, plastic, felt, or aluminum foil?

Materials

- Centimeter ruler
- Plastic (15cm x 15cm square)
- Copier paper (15cm x 15cm square)
- Felt (15cm x 15cm square)
- Aluminum foil (15cm x 15cm square)
- 4 small clear plastic cups
- Tablespoon
- Water
- Scissors

Procedure

1. Pour 1 tablespoon of water into four clear plastic cups.

2. Cut your copier paper, felt, plastic, and aluminum foil into strips that are about 2 centimeters wide and 10 centimeters long.

3. At the same time, you and your partner place one piece in each cup so that only the bottom part of each strip touches the water.

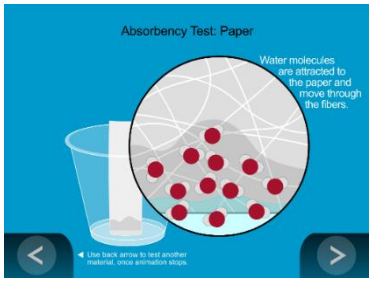
4. Hold the pieces straight up for about 30 seconds.

5. Take all the pieces out and look at them closely.

2. For the Absorbency Test, put an “X” in the box to show which material absorbs water or does not absorb water.

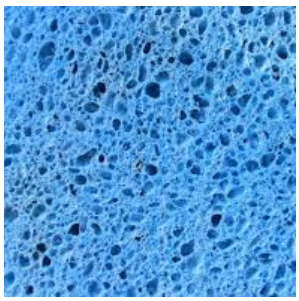
Material	Absorbs Water	Does Not Absorb Water
Paper	x	
Plastic		x
Felt	x	
Aluminum Foil		x

3. You saw an animation of water absorbing into paper. Are water molecules attracted to the paper or not attracted to the paper?



Water molecules are attracted to the paper.

4. You saw a picture of a sponge and the cloth of a towel. What do a sponge and a towel have in common that helps them absorb water?



Both the sponge and the towel have many tiny holes, spaces, and channels for the water molecules to move through and collect.