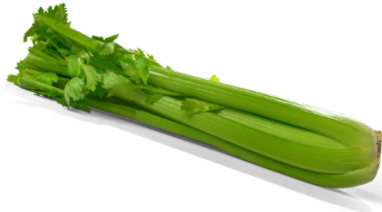


Celery Experiment

Plants absorb water to help them grow. Water travels up tubes in the stems, the tubes are called xylems. The water will travel up the xylems and to all parts of the plant. The water is used during photosynthesis to make food for the plant.

This experiment will explore the way plants absorb water.

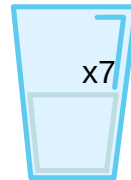
What you need:



Celery, with the leaves!



Water



7 Cups or Glasses



Food Dye

What to do:

Start out by looking at and talking about the features of the celery. Cut the stalks off and look at a slice of the celery, can you see the tubes? Colour in the celery on the observation sheet and draw the slice.

Cut 7 stalks of celery from the base.

Half fill 7 cups with water.

Add food dye to 6 of the cups (you can use red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple for a rainbow). You will want to use more than just a few drops of food dye so the colour is quite vibrant. Leave one cup with no dye to compare with at the end.

Place a stalk of celery into each cup of water. Make a guess about what you think will happen and colour in the cups and celery on the observation sheet.

Leave the cups with the celery for at least 3 hours (overnight is better, or 24 hours).

What happened to the celery? Colour in the results on the observation sheet.

Cut a slice from each stalk, can you see the tubes now?

Some more questions to ask:

Did anything change on the control cup of celery?

What colour dye do you think was the best?

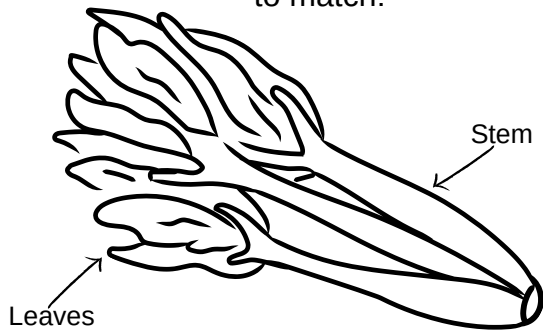
Has anything happened to the water?

Were you surprised by the results?

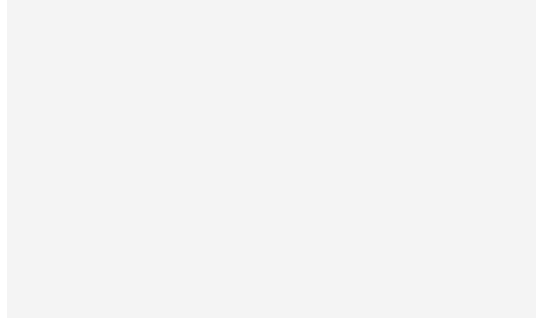


Celery Experiment Observations

Look at your celery and colour this bunch to match:



Ask an adult to slice a piece of celery, draw the slice:



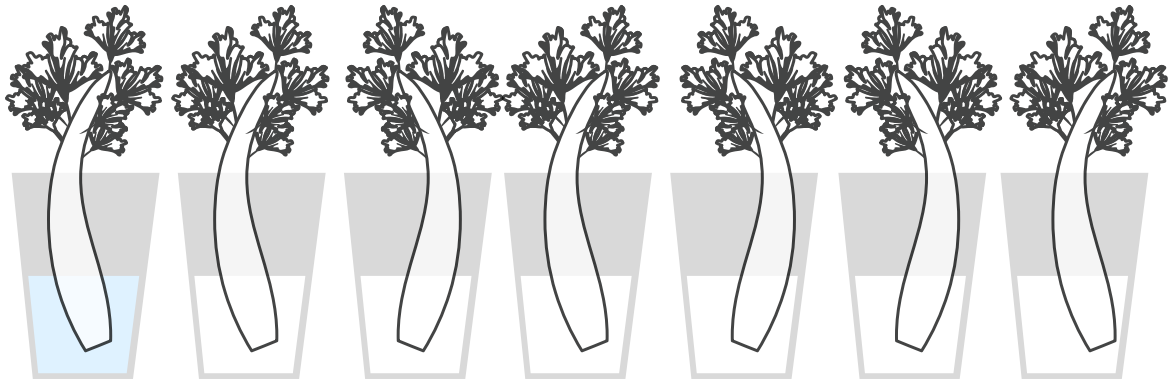
What colour is the stem?

What colour are the leaves?

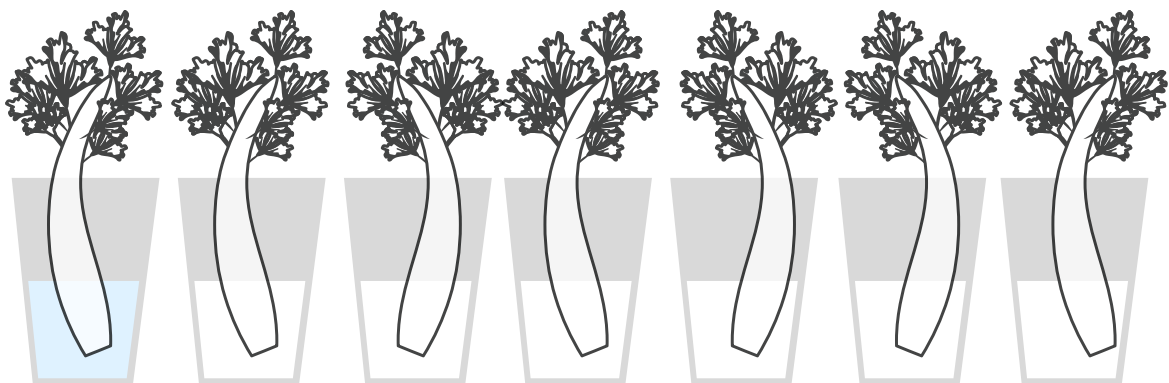
Colour the water in these cups to match yours.

Colour in the celery stalks with what you think they will look like after being in the water for 24 hours (1 Day):

Control - this water has no colouring added.



Colour the celery stalks to show what they looked like after 24 hours in the water.



Is it the same or different from what you thought they'd look like?