

Name _____ Date _____

Using Water to Measure Time: Part 1

Background

1. How can the sun and the moon be used to tell time?
2. Describe some of the problems with using the sun and moon to keep track of time.
3. How might water be used to keep track of time?

Design Challenge

Construct a sinking water clock that sinks in 15 seconds and is reusable.

Constraints

The only materials you may use are a four-inch square of aluminum foil, washers, paperclip, and water tank.

Observations

Draw a sketch of each new design. Record observations and measurements next to each sketch. Use the back if needed.

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Analysis/Conclusions

1. What are some things you did to make the clock sink more quickly? More slowly?
2. What variables did you change in this experiment?
3. What are some advantages and disadvantages of water clocks compared with sun clocks?