2nd Grade: Lesson 1.3
Activity Sheet
Absorbency Test

Name: __________________
Date: __________________

Safety: Wear safety goggles, and be sure to follow all safety instructions given by your teacher. Wash your hands after completing the activity.

1. In the demonstration your teacher did, which material absorbed water – Wax paper or Coffee filter? __________________

ACTIVITY

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

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

Procedure
1. Pour 1 tablespoon of water into four clear plastic cups.
2. Cut your paper, felt, plastic, and aluminum into strips that are 2 cm wide and 10 cm long.
3. At the same time, you and your partner should place one strip of material piece of each material into each cup so that only the bottom part of the strip touches the water.
4. Hold the pieces straight up for about 30 seconds.
5. Remove the strips from the water and look at them closely.
2. For the Absorbency Test, put an “X” in the box to show whether the material absorbed water or did not absorb water.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Absorbs Water</th>
<th>Does Not Absorb Water</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Felt</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aluminum Foil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. You saw an animation of paper absorbing water. What are the two main reasons why water molecules absorb into 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?