

Think before you flush experiment



Toilet paper vs flushable wipes

It's important to only flush the 3 P's down the toilet - pee, poo, and toilet paper. They can all flow through the sewers and reach the wastewater treatment works safely.

Sometimes, people flush other things such as cotton buds, rubbish, and wet wipes. All these

things can cause a blockage, resulting in flooding in your home and problems in the pipes.

Have a go at this experiment, and discover what happens to a wipe when it's flushed, compared to toilet paper.

Overview Add some toilet paper and wipes to two separate containers and shake them as if they were flushed.

Apparatus

What equipment will I need?



- 2 plastic containers or bottles with lids
- 2 pieces of toilet paper per experiment
- 1 flushable wipe per experiment
- Tap water
- Clock or stopwatch for counting in seconds

Prediction

What do you think will happen?

Fair testing

How I will make it a fair test and keep all things the same?

The only difference should be the two types of material.

Write down four ways to make it a fair test.

I will need to ensure the materials (wipe and toilet paper) are the same

I will need to use the same size and shape

I will need to use the same amount of

I will need to shake the for the same length of

Words to help you: *container, water, time, container, size*

Method

What am I going to do?

- Put 500ml of water in to each container or enough for the container to be $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ full.
- Add one flushable wipe to one container.
- Add two pieces of toilet paper to the second container.
- Shake each container for 9 seconds to represent a toilet flush (a standard toilet flushes for nine seconds).
- Look at both containers and compare the materials inside.

Both containers must have the same amount of water inside.



Use a clock or stopwatch to help time the experiment.

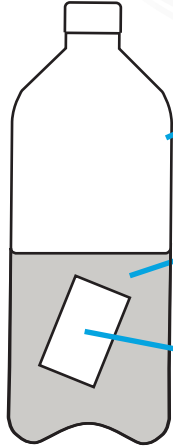
A diagram of my experiment

Label the apparatus

Container

Water

Wipe or toilet paper



Results

What happened in the experiment?

Conclusion

What did I find out and why did it happen?