

More Fun with Paper Clips

Materials:

A pan that will hold water

A small piece of paper

Paper clips

Instructions:

1. Fill the pan with water.
2. Carefully lay a small piece of paper on top of the water.
3. Place paper clips, one at a time, on top of the paper.

Question/prediction:

How many paper clips will the small piece of paper hold before it begins to sink? Does the size of the paper matter?

The science behind this project:

Drops of water stick to each other. Scientists call this surface tension.

The surface tension of the water is what held up the floating paper until the weight of the paper clips became too heavy.