

Topic: Identifying and Reading Lab Equipment

Teacher Information

Time Allowance

30 minutes

Background

Students may be testing the spacecraft's water supply to make sure that it is safe for use. Testing the water requires using several pieces of basic lab equipment.

Skills

- Students will practice reading basic laboratory equipment that will be used during their mission at the Challenger Learning Center.
- Students will practice recording data on a data log similar to one used at the Challenger Learning Center.

Materials

6 graduated cylinders

6 beakers

electronic balance

rulers

3 classroom thermometers

3 plastic cups

6 general items to be massed (pencil, paper clip, scissors, etc...)

Preparations

Prior to students arrival, set up stations according to the list below:

Station	Items
1	graduated cylinders
2	electronic balance
3	beakers
4	rulers
5	thermometer

1. Fill graduated cylinders and beakers with varying levels of water and label them A-F. (You can use food coloring to color the water to make it easier to see.)
2. Fill the 3 plastic cups with cold, lukewarm and hot water and place a thermometer in each. Label them A, B and C. (A hot plate can be useful in keeping warm water on hand.)
3. Place 5 random items at Station 2 and label them A-E. (ex. pen, wooden block, etc...)
4. Create an answer key. (Keep in mind that thermometer readings will vary throughout the day.)
5. Divide students into pairs or have them work individually.
6. Students should rotate through the stations recording their findings and data.