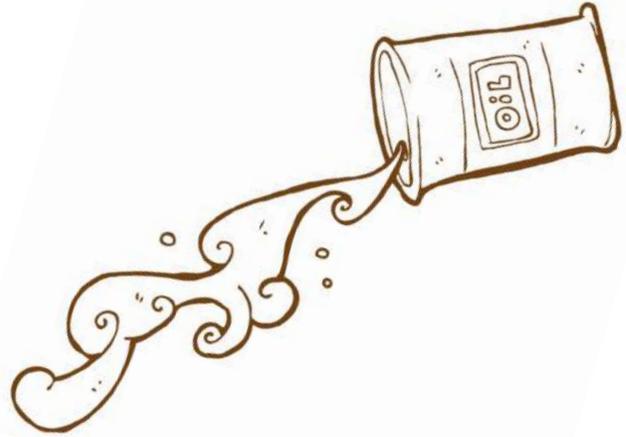


Oil Spill Clean Up

YOU WILL NEED:

- Water
- Cooking oil
- Food coloring
- Dish soap
- Cotton balls or swabs
- Spoons
- Feathers



DIRECTIONS:

1. Fill a baking dish with water and add a drop of blue food coloring if desired to tint your water blue like an ocean.
2. Add a 1/4 cup of oil to the water creating an oil spill in the ocean,
3. Brainstorm how to clean up the oil. Encourage the kids to use a spoon to scoop up the oil or use the cotton ball to absorb the oil.
4. What else could you try to clean up the oil? What happens when you add dish soap to the oil and water?
5. If you have feathers available, add them to the water. What happens to the feathers? Can you clean the feathers? Have the kids make a soapy water mixture and try to clean the feathers. What are the results?

What's Happening?

THE SCIENCE BEHIND OIL SPILL CLEAN UP:

Oil and water do not mix. So when oil from an oil pump, tanker, or refinery is spilled and mixes with water it can kill many plants and animals in the surrounding area. Oil spill disasters can take weeks and months to clean up.

In this experiment, you will discover that it takes a great amount of effort to remove even a small amount of oil. Imagine what it's like to remove oil from rivers, or oceans.

THINK ABOUT IT:

Think about what you've learned.

Could you design a mechanism that could capture oil from water and remove it at a faster rate?

How? Research, design, and draw out your ideas.

