

Pepper My Water Surface Tension Experiment

What You'll Need

- Bowl
- Water
- Spoon (does not have to be metal)
- Ground black pepper or other spice
- Dishwashing soap (Dawn works best)



What to Do

1. Fill the bowl with water to about one inch below the edge of the bowl.
2. Pour about a dime-size of Dawn into the spoon and then use your fingers to completely coat the spoon with the dishwashing soap. It shouldn't be dripping from the spoon, but the spoon should be coated.



3. Sprinkle pepper until it covers the surface of the water as pictured below.



4. Watch carefully and place the spoon very gently in the water in the center of the bowl. Do not stir or move the spoon. You only want to break the surface tension, not disturb the water. The pepper should scatter to the sides of the bowl where the surface tension has not been disturbed.

