

Topic: Materials	Primary 3 Age 6-7	Title of example: Drops on coin results
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Scientific skills focus

Carries out:

Observes and collects information using appropriate equipment.



Curriculum link

I can make and test predictions about solids dissolving in water and can relate my findings to the world around me. SCN 1-16a

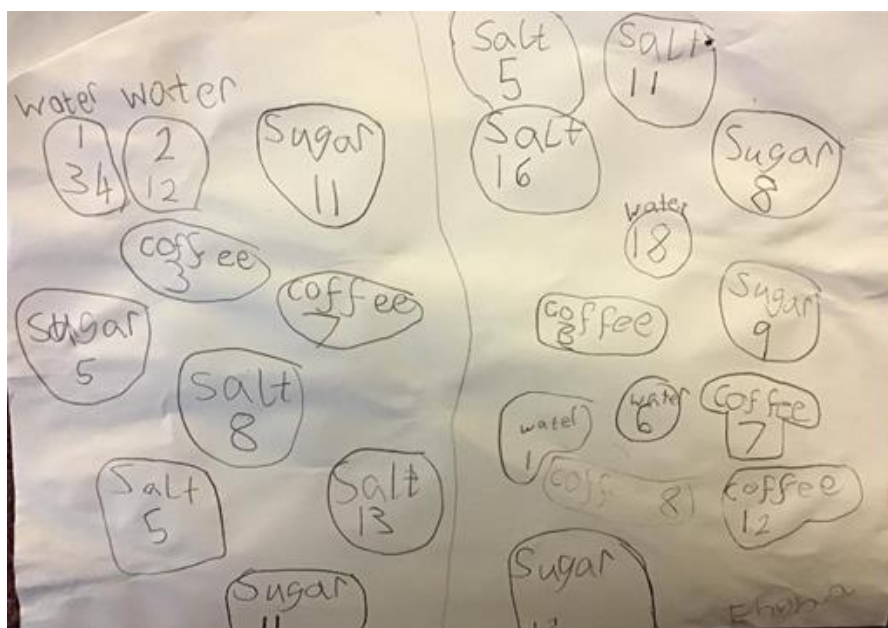
Example

Children investigated the number of drops that would fit on a coin. Children meeting the objective would be able to observe the liquid carefully to decide on the number of drops and record their results in a way that others can understand.



In one school (picture 1), they investigated different liquids (e.g. salt water, sugar water and coffee) to link with work on dissolving. For this investigation, the children were asked to record their own results. This meant that the teacher could see how systematic the children were being in their investigating and recording. She found that the majority were able to make their own record, but that clarity varied, so support with recording in tables would be a useful next step.

Picture 1



Picture 2



In another school (picture 2), with a P1-3 composite (mixed age) class, a pre-printed table was provided to support observation. This also allowed time for P3s to discuss their observations e.g. *"sometimes if you squeezed the pipette too hard it gave you too many drops of water and you couldn't count them"*.



Teacher box 1 - elicitation. See [TAPS pyramid](#) for more examples.

Examples from Newhill Primary School (Perth and Kinross) and Colmonell and Ballantrae Primary School (South Ayrshire)