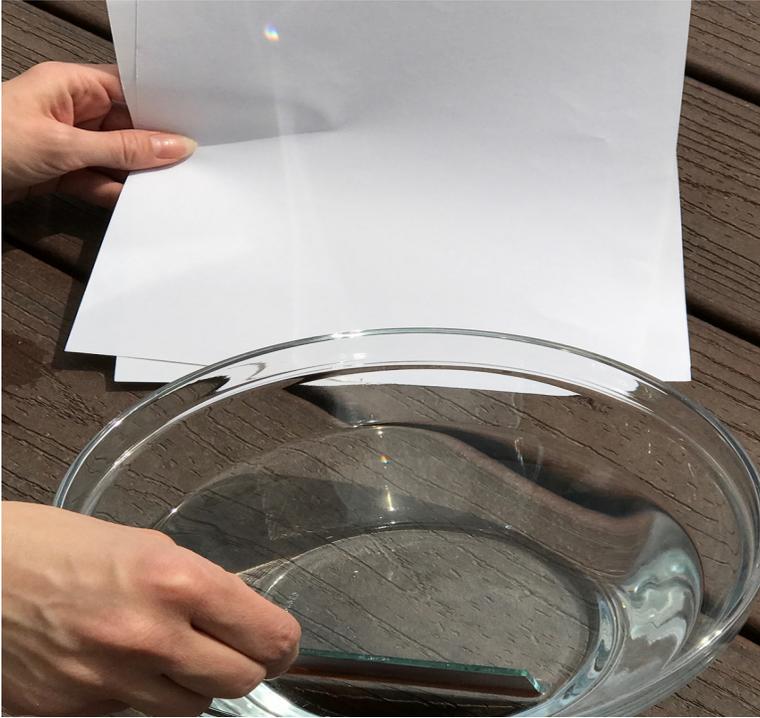


Making Rainbows



Materials:

- bowl of water
- mirror
- white paper
- sunshine

Science Concepts:

Earth & Sky, Light

Directions:

1. Explain that today's activity is all about rainbows! Ask your child if they know all the colors in the rainbow. Explain that a rainbow appears when the light gets split up into its 7 different colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. The light gets split up because it's passing through a substance that bends the light. When we see a rainbow in the sky, it's usually when the sun is behind us and it is shining through lots of tiny raindrops floating in the sky.
2. Share that today we'll be making and finding rainbows!
3. Fill a large bowl with water and place a mirror inside. Part of the mirror should be under the water and the other part is sticking out. Make sure to place this bowl near a sunny window or outside with direct light coming in so it hits the mirror.
4. Hold a large white piece of paper in front of the bowl to try and catch a rainbow on the paper! Move the paper around until you find it.
5. Explore other ways to make a rainbow using the experiment sheet.

Rainbow Experiments

Test out these experiments. Mark Yes or No if you saw a rainbow.

Yes

No

	Yes	No
Hold a CD up to a light or sunshine.		
Blow bubbles in the sunshine.		
Fill a glass full of water and place on top of a white piece of paper. Shine a flashlight through the glass.		
Place a prism next to a sunny window.		
Spray water in the air with a garden hose or spray bottle so it creates a mist. Direct it so the sun's light passes directly through the mist.		
Look for oil on the road or driveway to find a rainbow.		