Zedua Experiments

Title: Escaping Water (Capillary action)

What is capillary action?

Capillary action is the ability of liquid to flow in narrow spaces without the assistance of, or even in opposition to, external forces like gravity.

Let the children observe the interesting scientific phenomenon of water, the capillary action.

Materials Required:

1. A glass of water
2. An empty glass
3. Some paper towels

Procedure:

1. Twist a couple of pieces of paper towel together until it forms the shape of a wick, this wick will absorb and transfer the water.
2. Place one end of the paper towels into the glass filled with water and the other into the empty glass.
3. Wait and observe (this experiment takes a little bit of patience).

What's happening?

The paper towel wick starts getting wet, after a few minutes you will notice that the empty glass is starting to fill with water, it keeps filling until there is an even amount of water in each glass.

Water uses this process to move along the tiny gaps in the fibre of the paper towels. The adhesive force between the water and the paper towel is stronger than the cohesive forces inside the water itself. This process can be seen in plants where moisture travels from the roots to the rest of the plant.

Source: pintrest