

"Bird Baths" Data Record Sheet

Who is the Observer? _____
Who is the Coordinator? _____
Who is the Tester? _____

Each member of your team must carefully follow the directions listed below.

Coordinator: Read each of the following directions to your team.

Coordinator: Pour your liquid into the bowl. Spread several paper towels on the desk in front of the tester.

Tester: Put your hands into the liquid. Describe to the observer how the liquid feels. Describe the consistency. (Is it thick? Is it thin?) Describe the temperature. (Is it hot? Is it cold?)

Observer: Record the Tester's descriptions here:

- Consistency: _____
- Temperature: _____

Tester: Rub the liquid all over your forearms. Does the liquid feel any different? Describe to the observer how it feels to be covered in this liquid.

Observer: Record the Tester's descriptions here:

Tester: Rub the liquid all over your feather. Does the liquid affect the feather?

Observer: Record the Tester's observations here:

Tester: Imagine rubbing the liquid on your hair. How might this feel? How would it feel on your face? How would it feel to swim in this liquid? Would it even be possible to do so?

Observer: Record the Tester's responses here:

Coordinator: Help the Tester to carefully wipe and wash off the liquid according to your teacher's instructions. Then, have all members of your investigation team return to your table.

As a team, do the following. (You may use the back of this sheet for notes.)

1. Relate the Tester's experience to that of a bird or other wildlife exposed to an oil spill.
2. What traits of an oil spill cause problems for wildlife? Were any of these traits apparent in the tests your group conducted?
3. What problems would you face if you had to go through an entire day covered in the substance your group examined? Would wildlife face similar problems? Worse? Explain.
4. What did the Tester do at the end of the experiment to avoid facing the problems you listed in the first part of Question 3? What can be done to help prevent the problems oil spills cause for wildlife? What can be done to solve these problems when they can't be prevented?