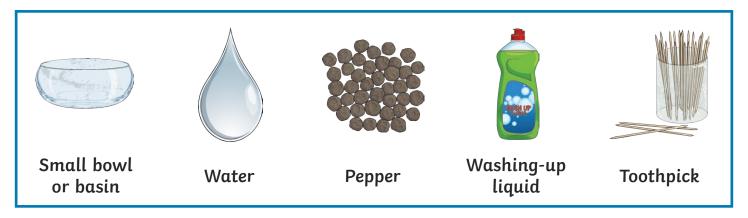
Surface Tension - Chasing Pepper

Science Unit: Energy and Forces: Surface Tension **Skills Development:** Observing and experimenting

I can explain surface tension.

Materials



Instructions

- 1 Place some water into the bowl or basin.
- **2** Sprinkle some pepper on the surface of the water.
- 3 Put a drop of washing-up liquid on the top of the toothpick.
- 4 Dab the toothpick into the surface of the water.

What's Happening?

The pepper will move away from the toothpick.

Scientific Principles

The pepper floats on the surface of the water because there is a skin on the top of the water created by surface tension. When you dab the toothpick in the water, you break the surface tension.



