

Dear Families,

We have been talking about how some materials soak up water (like a sponge) and some do not (like a marble). When a material, like a sponge, soaks up water easily, we say the material is absorbent. Ask your children if they remember the word “absorbent.” Do they know what it means?

In school, we tested materials to see if they were absorbent. You can continue this investigation at home.

Materials:

- Collect several household objects (that you don't mind getting wet)
- Have spray bottles, eye droppers, or teaspoons available
- Water

Directions:

Invite your child to choose a material and a tool such as a spray bottle of water. Decide together how to test the material to see if it is absorbent.

You can ask:

- Which material from our collection should we test first?
- Let's predict. Is this absorbent?
- What tool [point] should we use to test it?
- What is happening to the material?
- Is it absorbent?
- How do we know?

