



Additional Information

The Scientific Method Follow-up Activity

The Scientific Method is a methodical technique for investigating ideas, developing knowledge and correcting accepted facts. This method was developed in order to provide a universally accepted practice for scientific discovery.

For students, the practice can be based on the following steps:

- Ask a question
- Do background research
- Construct a hypothesis
- Test the hypothesis
- Review and analyze the data
- Report the results

Siphons

A siphon is defined as a device that is commonly a tube in an inverted “U” shape that causes a liquid to flow uphill over a crest without a pump. It is powered by the fall of the liquid as it flows down the tube and discharged at a level lower than the surface of the reservoir it came from.

Siphons have been used for thousands of years; there is evidence in Egyptian records of siphon use dating from 1500 BC. In today’s society, siphoning is the main principle behind flushing toilets.

The science behind siphoning is complicated and often only studied in advanced university level courses on fluid mechanics. It does, however, follow basic Newtonian laws, such as conservation of energy, gravity and conservation of mass.