Grade 2
Week 11

THE EGG IN WATER
Will It Sink or Float?

Materials:

large clear glass or cup
water
permanent marker or waterproof pen
salt
1 teaspoon
egg

Procedure:

1. Fill the glass about 3/4 full with water.
2. Gently lower the egg into the water. What happened?
3. Remove the egg from the water and put in two level teaspoons of salt. Stir thoroughly with a spoon until it is dissolved. Put the egg back in the glass and observe.
4. Repeat step #3 until the egg floats on the surface of the water.
5. Make a mark on the egg's highest point, then take out the egg and dry it. Draw a face, with the mark near the top.
6. Pour away half of the salt water so the glass is half full. Tilt the glass gently, then pour fresh water on top of the salt water.
7. When the glass is full, carefully slide in the egg. It should start sinking. Does it sink to the bottom?

Questions:

1. What happened when the egg was placed in the fresh water?
2. What was the difference when the egg was placed in the salt water?
3. How many teaspoons of salt did you have to add to make the egg float on the surface?
4. Why do things float better in salt water than in fresh water?

Why It Works: The fresh water is less dense than the salt water. It sinks through the fresh water, but sits on top of the salt water.