



## Turbidity Activity

### Question to answer:

What is turbidity?

### Materials:

- Clear cup
- Tea bag
- Sticker or something to go under (or in) the cup
- Dirt, sediment, rocks
- Hot water
- Timer
- Flashlight

### Procedure:

1. Place a sticker or penny or small object either inside the cup or under the cup.
2. Add the tea bag to the cup.
3. Add hot water from the tap to the cup, almost to the top. **BE CAREFUL THE WATER ISN'T TOO HOT TO BURN YOU.**
4. Fill in the data chart below with your observations.
5. Make an observation every minute.
6. Shine your flashlight through the cup as well and observe.
7. After observing for 5 minutes, dump the water.
8. Go outside and get a handful of dirt, pebbles, small rocks and put that into your cup.
9. Next fill your cup with water from the tap (can be cold or hot).
10. Make an observation every minute.
11. Shine your flashlight through the cup as well and observe.

### Observations:

#### TEA BAG OBSERVATION

	Without flashlight	With flashlight
1 minute		
2 minutes		
3 minutes		
4 minutes		
5 minutes		



## SOIL, ROCKS, PEBBLES OBSERVATION

	Without flashlight	With flashlight
1 minute		
2 minutes		
3 minutes		
4 minutes		
5 minutes		

### Questions to Answer:

1. What did you notice about the water with the tea bag over the 5 minutes?
2. What did you notice about the water with the soil, rocks, pebbles over 5 minutes?
3. How might this activity simulate a lake or a pond?
4. Why is turbidity so important in a lake or a pond?