

*Raven Hill Discovery Center is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation.*

**Mission:** Raven Hill provides a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history & the arts.

## Quicker Picker Uppers

The commercials say that Bounty paper towels are the “quicker picker upper”. Collect different paper towels, tissues, toilet paper and napkins to test. Cut strips. Tape strips to a ruler, so they just touch the bottom of a cake pan. Put colored water in the pan. Rest the ruler across from two books, so the strips are just in the water. Check the strips periodically over an hour or so to see which paper allows the water to travel up the highest. In this case, Bounty did travel the highest, but Viva paper towels were not far behind. You might want to use more food coloring than I did too and notice that the water travels faster up the strips than the food coloring, because the molecules are lighter and smaller!



1 Supplies



2 Books for supports



3 Test strips taped to ruler



4 Bottom of strips in water



5 From L to R: toilet paper, Viva paper towels, Bounty paper towels: Puff's tissue.  
Both water (left) and coloring (right) move higher on Bounty than all others.