



# MAKE A SPRAY



## Introduction (include class level)

Suited to all class levels  
How do sprays work?  
Could you make your own?

## Background

What kinds of sprays do people use on a day to day basis?  
(Deodorants, furniture polish, perfume, hair spray)

To see this in action, visit us on <http://scoilchaitrionajnrscience.blogspot.com/2009/11/making-spray.html>

Or on

<http://scoilchaitrionajnrmsmcloughlin.blogspot.com/2011/12/pop-top-and-bug-spray.html>



## You will need

2 drinking straws, plastic cup of water, scissors

## Method

- Fill a plastic cup of water as close to the top as possible without spilling
- Stand a plastic straw upright in the cup. Cut off the top of the straw so it is only just a little taller than the glass. The water will reach as high in the straw as it does in the glass
- Hold another straw close to the top of the first straw
- Put it at a right angle (or an acute angle) to the top end of the first straw and blow very hard through it
- What happens? (The fast flowing stream of air makes a decrease in air pressure at the top of the first straw. The air at the top of the second straw rushes out to take the place of the air blown away from the top of the first straw. This air is then replaced by the water in the straw. When this water reaches the top of the straw, it divides up into fine droplets)

## Follow-up

How can using sprays be bad for the environment

## Safety considerations (if any)

Care with scissors