

Oil Spill Activity

- Fill a tub or baking pan with water (add blue food coloring if you wish), this is the ocean or body of water
- Grab some bath toys, boats or use anything that floats (plastic cups, empty bottles) and feathers if you have them
- Add cooking oil
- Watch how the oil spreads
- Try different ways to clean up the oil (ask kids for ideas)
- Use scoops, paper towel, sponge, etc
- Now add some drops of Dawn dish soap and see what happens
- Try to clean off the bath toys and feathers as well, discuss how hard it is to clean up oil*
 - *Each end of the soap is made of different molecules. One end hates water (hydrophobic) and the other loves water (hydrophilic). The oil is then broken up into smaller droplets and then easier to remove!

Source website: <https://www.independencemuseum.org/lessons/we-are-water-protectors/>