



If we observe the things around us carefully, sometimes we get to see some very interesting things. They seem like magic tricks when people do not understand the reasons behind them. Here are two interesting experiments for you that appear to be magic. When you study Science, you will find the explanations of these tricks.

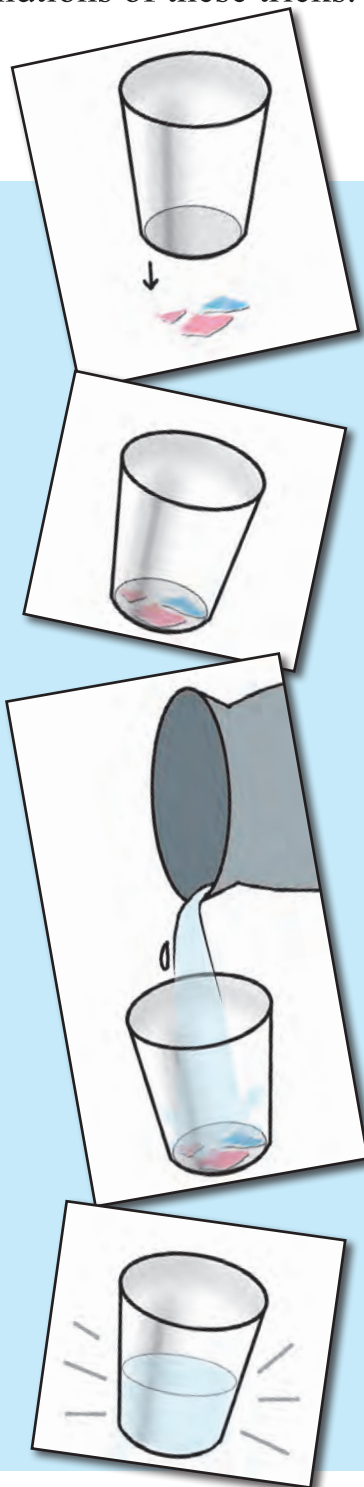
A. A Vanishing Trick

What you need :

Water, a few pieces of coloured paper and a glass. (The glass should have smooth sides.)

What you do :

- Place a few pieces of coloured paper on a table.
- Put the empty glass on top of the pieces.
- You can see the pieces clearly through the glass.
- Slowly and carefully, pour water into the glass till it is full. Can you see the pieces now ? They have vanished !
- Lift the glass carefully. You will see that the pieces of paper are still there.
- Pour out the water and place the glass on top of the pieces. They are visible !
- Fill the glass with water again to make the pieces of paper vanish !
- Note that if you put the pieces of paper in the water in the glass they do not vanish !



B. Make the Pepper Run

What you need :

A clean saucer, water, powdered pepper, a drop of liquid soap.

What you do :

- Pour water into the saucer.
- Sprinkle pepper evenly all over the water.
- Put your finger in the water.
What happens ? Nothing.
- Now, put a drop of liquid soap on your finger.
- Dip the same finger in the water.

What happens ? Watch as all the pepper rushes to the edge of the saucer.



Things to do :

1. Read 'What you need' and 'What you do' and try both the activities yourself.
2. After you have tried an activity, tell what you did and what happened.
3. Find other interesting 'tricks' with the help of your teacher, friends or parents and write them down with pictures / drawings.

For the Teacher : Arrange a demonstration of these and other simple science experiments in the class, from time to time. Let the children try out these experiments themselves. After that, encourage them to talk about what they did and what they observed.