



Credit: NASA

Water purifier

This activity uses the energy in sunlight to turn muddy water into drinking water.

You will need

- Large cooking pot
- Drinking glass with a heavy base
- Clear plastic food wrap
- Masking tape
- Some muddy water
- £1 coin

Steps

1

Pour about 5 cm of muddy water into the cooking pot.

2

Place the drinking glass right side up in the middle of the cooking pot.

3

Cover the cooking pot with clear plastic food wrap, but leave enough slack in the wrap so that it can hang downwards.

4

Place the £1 coin in the middle of the plastic food wrap so that the wrap hangs down in the middle, directly over (but not touching) the glass.

5

Place the entire apparatus in direct sunlight.

Analysis/ discussion

Why do water droplets appear on the plastic food wrap?

Why did they fall into the drinking glass?

Would this be a practical way for us to get drinking water?

Why did the water evaporate and the dirt get left behind?

Look at the lives of people who do not have pure drinking water. How do they cope?