
RECIPES

MOVING WATER AND TAKING SAMPLES

Pouring

If you have lots of the sample and a big sink, carefully pour water into the dissolved oxygen sample bottle, allowing the rest to fall into the sink.

Siphons

Water is easily moved from one container to another using a siphon. Clear, flexible plastic aquarium tubing used for siphoning may be purchased from scientific supply catalogs, but is also sold in hardware and auto supply stores and pet shops featuring fish. Siphons may be started by sucking on one end with the other immersed in the solution to be moved. This practice usually results in a mouthful of the solution. Small plastic tubing clamps which can be used to regulate the flow rate prevent this problem by allowing you to seal the tubing just before the solution reaches your mouth. They are also available from supply houses.

The other end of the siphon must be at a level lower than the surface of the solution being siphoned. Remove your finger or open the tubing clamp to allow flow. Because germs may be transmitted if students are allowed to use siphons, make yourself the sole siphoner and wash your tubing regularly.

A siphon may also be started by holding the entire length under water until it fills. Remove one end while holding it closed and proceed as above.

Kitchen basters and syringes

Water samples for the dissolved oxygen test kits may also be transferred with a large kitchen baster if the bulb is squashed flat BEFORE being immersed in the solution to be sample. No blowing bubbles in the solution to be sampled. The sample is dribbled down the side of the sample bottle, not squirted in from above.

Large syringes with graduated measurements are available from several suppliers of elementary science materials. These are made of plastic and look like giant "shots" except that they lack a needle. With either the kitchen baster or the syringe, there is the chance that they will be used as squirt guns. **IT IS ABSOLUTELY CRITICAL THAT THE WATER NOT BE SQUIRTED INTO THE DISSOLVED OXYGEN TEST BOTTLE.** Dribble the water down the side of the bottle.

USE THE GENTLEST POSSIBLE WAY TO MOVE WATER SO YOU DO NOT ADD OXYGEN.