

Preparing for the Unit

1. Curiosity Centre

The Curiosity Centre gives students an opportunity to investigate science ideas and tools through active participation, free exploration, and independent play. In this hands-on centre, students can explore objects related to liquids and solids.

The Curiosity Centre could have

- a variety of liquids and solids for students to explore (except by taste, which should be done under adult supervision), such as cotton balls, sheets of tin foil, plastic baggies, crayons, blocks of wood, erasers, drinking straws, modelling clay, glue, milk, vinegar, cooking oil, hand lotion, shampoo, apple juice, hair conditioner, molasses, as well as gummy bears, juice, and chocolate sauce, if there are no allergy concerns
- a variety of mixtures or combinations of liquids and solids for students to examine and use as a resource for drawing, such as a lava lamp, snow globe, bottle of oil-and-vinegar salad dressing

Check the centre frequently to ensure it is well stocked with items. Invite students to contribute to the centre by bringing in items or photographs related to liquids and solids. Remind students to tidy up the materials when they are finished.

Note: You may choose to display new items every few days or introduce items one at a time throughout the unit. Allergy concerns must be considered before adding any item to the centre.

2. Science Journals and Folders



Check that students are recording appropriately in their Science Journals, ensuring that they date each entry and record ideas using sketches with labels, lists of words, or sentences. Continue to encourage them to add new questions or ideas to their Journals as often as they like.

Remind students that they should store completed BLMs, drawings, graphs, etc. that are related to the *Liquids and Solids* unit in their Science Folders.

3. Word Wall



Add any relevant science terminology to the Word Wall throughout the unit. Urge students to use the terms as often as possible as they work through the unit.

4. I Wonder Wall



Continue to build the I Wonder Wall throughout the unit by posting students' questions as they arise. Refer to the I Wonder Wall often and select questions that students may be ready to answer.

5. Reading Centre

Add texts (books, magazines, and photographs) relating to liquids and solids to the Reading Centre. Or, you may choose to include these texts in the Curiosity Centre. The titles in the Science Library will help start off a collection of books. Also, refer to the lists of texts pertaining to Liquids and Solids in the Additional Resources section of this guide (page 76).