

## Pepper and Soap Stunt

<b>Objective</b>	Get pepper flakes to move to the side of a dish.
<b>Supplies</b>	Black pepper. A shallow dish—a dinner plate should work. A bar of soap. <sup>1</sup>
<b>Directions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Put about a half inch of water into the dish.</li><li>2. Sprinkle pepper evenly over the water in the dish.</li><li>3. Now dip the soap into the center of the dish.</li><li>4. What happened to the pepper?</li></ol>
<b>Outcome</b>	The soap causes the pepper to move to the side of the dish.
<b>How does it work?</b>	Water has a lot of surface tension. This means that the water molecules really stick together. It is hard for the pepper to break up the water molecules and mix with the water so the pepper flakes just sit at the top. When you add the soap, it destroys this surface tension and the pepper goes to the edge where there is no soap.

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<sup>1</sup> Scientists love to use footnotes. They use them to add clarifying information to a document. So, here is your clarifying information. If you do not have a bar of soap, you could use a drop of liquid soap.