

# WATERSCOPIES



*"...the most fun lies in seeing and studying the unknown."*  
Aldo Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac*

There's a lot happening in the water all the time!

Check out the living things in your local waters by making an underwater viewing scope with materials you have around the house.

A waterscope eliminates the glare from the water, allowing you to see fish, tadpoles, insect larvae, and plants more clearly.

To hone your observation skills, take some paper and a pencil along and sketch or write down what you see.

## Make a Waterscope

**Materials:** A clean, disposable container (like a ½ gallon milk jug/carton or quart yogurt container), scissors or utility knife (ask an adult for help), plastic wrap, strong rubber bands or duct tape

### Directions:

1. Cut off the bottom of your container. If it has only a narrow opening at the top, cut the top off too.
2. Wrap the bottom end in plastic wrap, ensuring the plastic wrap goes up fairly high around the sides. Water will seep in if you submerge the scope above the plastic wrap.
3. Secure the plastic wrap to the container with rubber bands or duct tape. Your waterscope is now ready to put in the water! Put the bottom portion in the water, and look through the open top.