

SECTION 2: AIR CAN PUSH

LAB

INTRODUCTION

Can you tilt a cup of water upside down and use only an index card to keep the water from coming out? Yes! The air pressure in the room wants to get into the cup of water and pushes the index card. When a few drops of water leak out, it leaves some extra space in the car and the air inside the jar has more space per molecule, thus less pressure. The higher pressure room air tries to get in, pushing the card in. Learn more about this experiment and others that demonstrate are pressure in this lesson.

ASSESSMENT ANCHORS ADDRESSED

- S4.A.2.2** Identify appropriate instruments for a specific task and describe the information the instrument can provide.
- S4.C.1.1** Describe observable physical properties of matter.
- S4.C.3.1** Identify and describe different types of force and motion and the effect of the interaction between force and motion.

PURPOSE

Students complete a variety of activities to show them that air can push.

MATERIALS

For each team of 4:	For the teacher:
1 cup, 1 slim 8 oz. jar	1 cup
4 straws	Nylon stocking or cheese cloth*
2 paper towels*	
3"x5" card	
1 aquarium with water	

*Teacher provides items marked with **