



## Unfolding flower experiment

You will need: Flower template, crayons or pencils (not felt tips), a saucer, scissors and water.

1. Colour in the flowers on the template then cut them out. Fold the petals into the middle. Add water to the bottom of the saucer.
2. Float the flower on top of the water with the petals facing up. Watch it unfold (it should take about 30 seconds).

**Explanation:** When you float the flower on the water the paper starts to absorb the water. The water goes into the paper using a process called 'capillary action'. This causes the paper to swell.

As the paper in the folds swells it forces the paper petals to unfold. You could try different types of paper and see if it effects how fast the flower unfolds.