

Keep Them Busy With...



Celery

Activity Two: Colorful Capillary Action

Did you know you can change the color of celery with only water, food color and time? Capillary action is the ability of a liquid to flow in narrow spaces without the assistance of, or even in opposition to, external forces like gravity. We at The Produce Moms like to do this experiment with Dandy® celery stalks.

Step 1:

Using regular tap water, fill a glass about halfway full.

Step 2:

Add a few drops of food color to the glass – try different colors!

Step 3:

Cut the bottom off your celery stalk with scissors.

Step 3:

Let the celery sit in the water for 24 hours.

What are your predictions? What do you think will happen to the stalk and the leaves of the celery over time? Which color water do you think will work best?

After 24 hours, write down your observations. Break the stalk in half – what does it look like inside? What do you think will happen if you add more food coloring to a new stalk?