Experiencing density with saltwater and freshwater

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Materials

- A jar of freshwater
- A jar of seawater (about 1 tablespoon of salt dissolved)
- Some ice
- Food coloring

STEP 1: Freshwater

- **1.** Place a piece of ice on top of the water in the freshwater jar.
- **2.** Pour some food coloring on the ice and watch it as the ice melts.

STEP 2: Saltwater

- **1.** Place a piece of ice on top of the water in the saltwater jar.
- **2.** Pour some food coloring on the ice and watch it as the ice melts.

DISCUSSION

The food coloring picks up the cold water and starts sinking down in the freshwater jar. Cold water is denser and sinks down.

In the saltwater jar, the food coloring and the cold water stay on top.