

Water clock

Follow these step-by-step instructions to make your very own water clock and tell the time just like the Ancient Greeks.

1. Use a sharp pencil to pierce a small hole in the base of each of four plastic cups.

2. Space the cups evenly down a length of wooden board, leaving enough room at the bottom of the board for a bucket.

3. Fix one side of each cup to the board with strong tape.

4. Once the cups are in place, stand the board upright.

5. Place a plastic bucket underneath the last cup and mark the bucket with a centimetre scale.

6. Cover the hole in the top cup with your finger and fill the cup with water.

7. When you are ready, remove your finger to allow the water to drip down through the cups to reach the bucket at the bottom of the board.

8. Time how long it takes for the first drop of water to reach the bucket and record your answer.
Time how long the water takes to reach the first centimetre marker and record your answer.

9. What other time spans can be measured with this water clock?

