

**Safety:**

**Be careful with fire**

**Instruments:**

- a candle
- a tall drinking glass
- 3-4 flat metal washers
- a bowl
- candle holder

**Chemicals:**

- colored water

**Experiment:**

- Place the candle in the candle holder and set it in the bowl with the metal washers in an evenly-spaced circle (as large as the drinking glass) around it.
- Pour water into the bowl so that it is fairly deep.
- Light the candle, and then carefully lower the drinking glass over the candle.
- The bottom edge of the glass must be under water and resting firmly upon the metal washers.
- Keep the glass immobile.
- Wait for a short while and observe what happens to the water level inside the glass and the candle flame.

**Advice for the teacher:**

The water first rises inside the immobile glass, and then the flame goes out.

This experiment should show the pupils that air is a mix of different gases. One of them is especially important: oxygen, since a flame cannot burn without it.

Tip:

The narrower the glasses, the easier to observe the water being pulled upwards, especially if you look through the sides of the water bowl. Ideally, a glass only slightly wider than the candle should be used for maximum effect.