

Student experiment
(1st - 4th grade)

Tap water contains dissolved substances

🕒 Time: max. 15 min.

Safety:

Be careful during heating

Instruments:

- several heat-resistant glasses
- a hotplate

Chemicals:

- distilled water
- mineral water
- tap water

Experiment:

- Heat some tap water in a heat-resistant container. Remove from the heat just before all of the water evaporates to avoid any spatter. What can you observe?
- Repeat the experiment using mineral water, then with distilled water.

Advice for the teacher:

The distilled water leaves no residue behind, but the evaporated mineral water leaves a considerable layer of salts in the container. Tap water is somewhere in the middle, depending upon its mineral content.

The pupils should learn that minerals (salts) are dissolved in the water that they drink daily. The water found in nature is generally not pure like the distilled water used in this experiment.