

Can Water Flow Uphill?

Focus

Irrigation water is often held in open channels. To move the water into the paddocks to water a crop eg. cotton the water has to get over the paddock bank. When a polythene pipe is used to pull off water, the water has to flow up to get over the bank. Pumping water uses fuel and costs money; this method just needs man power. Air locks can be a problem!

Materials

- 3 big pots and
- 1 transparent plastic tube

Procedure

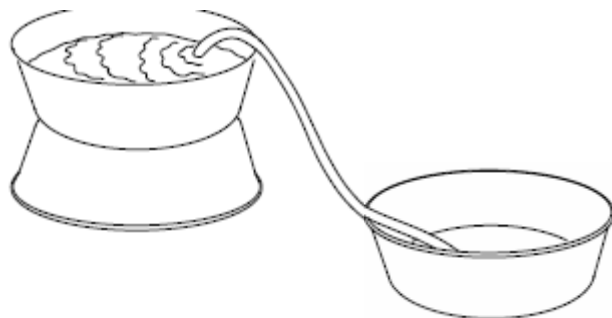
- Arrange the pots as they are shown in the illustration! Why do they need to be like this?
- Fill the upper pot with water!
- Experiment with ways to get the water flowing.

Hint

- Fill the tube completely with water and then shut off both ends with your fingers!
- Lay one end of the tube into the water of the upper pot and the other end into the pot below!
- Take your fingers off the ends of the tube!

Results

- Observe the water in the tube! Try to explain what happens.
- Compare your explanations with those of your classmates! Are there differences?



Conclusion

- Explain why water can flow over the rim of an aquarium if a tube is used.