

# WATER

## ACTIVITY SHEET

From cool fresh water springs to hot mineral springs to the shortest river in the world to the longest river in the United States - water takes center stage in Central Montana!

**FILL THIS WATER WITH YOUR FAVORITE COLORS.**



**How long is the Roe River?**

201 feet

210 feet

233 feet

285 feet

**How long is the Missouri River?**

877 feet

1,820 miles

2,341 miles

3,402 miles

## Spa Hot Springs natural waters contain the following minerals.

Chloride, Sulfate, Bicarbonate, Nitrate, Lithium, Sodium, Potassium, Magnesium, Calcium, Iron, Alumina, Silica

Put them in alphabetical order.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Try this salt water density experiment!

### What you'll need:

Small plastic jewels (or grapes or eggs) • Several clear cups full of water  
• Salt • Sugar • Baking Soda

### Directions:

1. Dissolve 2 tablespoons of salt in one cup, 2 tablespoons of sugar in another cup, and 2 tablespoons of baking soda in a third cup. Be sure to leave one cup as plain, fresh water. (You may need to use more salt, sugar, and baking soda depending on the size and weight of the item you use to drop in the cups.) Label each cup so you know which is which!
2. What do you think will happen when you drop the jewels in each cup? Will they sink or float?
3. Drop the jewels in each cup and watch what happens!
4. Why did some sink and some float?

### THE SCIENCE BEHIND IT

When you add salt to water it makes the water more dense. This means it gets heavier. Many objects that sink in fresh water will float in salt water!

Objects float in baking soda water because baking soda is a kind of salt. It dissolves in water to make the water more dense, just like table salt does. However, baking soda has another property that gave us a little bit of a surprise!

When baking soda dissolves in water some of it reacts to form carbon dioxide gas. If you look carefully you will see tiny bubbles rising from the bottom of the cup.

We must have added just the right amount of baking soda to the water because when we put the jewels in the cup they hovered right in the middle!

## What did you learn about different types of water?

---

---

---

---



FIND OTHER FIELD TRIP IDEAS AT [CENTRALMONTANA.COM/FIELDTRIP](http://CENTRALMONTANA.COM/FIELDTRIP).