

Wipe Toilet Experiment

If you use wipes you need to put them in the bin afterwards. Flushing them down the toilet can cause blockages in your home and in the wastewater network. They can also do considerable damage in the environment. The below experiment shows why it is ok to flush toilet paper down the toilet but not wipes.



GREEN-SCHOOLS
STAY HOME - WATER

Think
before
you
flush

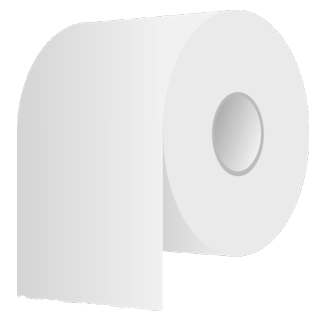
Set up time: 10 minutes

Wait time: 3 minutes

What do you need?

1. 2 x jars with lids
2. 5 x Wet wipes, facial wipes or baby wipes *
3. 20 x Toilet paper sheets *

* Doesn't have to be accurate measurements



What you need to do?

1. Put water in the two jars
2. Put toilet paper in one jar and wipes in the others
3. Make sure the lids are on tightly
4. Shake the jars
5. Observe what happens



Questions

1. Did the toilet paper breakdown? Did the wipes breakdown?
2. Which do you think clog up pipes?
3. What do you think happens when wipes from a lot of toilets go into waste-water treatment plants?



Watch this video to see a version of the experiment that tests paper towels and tissues too: <https://youtu.be/vr409wrELKI>

The Think Before You Flush Campaign is operated by Clean Coasts in partnership with Irish Water – to find out more about the Campaign please visit www.thinkbeforeyouflush.org