

Build a model aquifer from food and drink.

What you will need

- clear plastic drinking cup
- ice cream scoop or large spoon
- plastic teaspoon
- plastic drinking straw
- vanilla ice cream or fruit sorbet
- lemonade
- chocolate chips or cereal
- coloured cake sprinkles



What to do

1. Get a plastic drinking cup.



2. Put some chocolate chips in the cup.

This stands for sand and gravel at the bottom of an aquifer.



3. Pour in lemonade so it just covers the chocolate chips.

This stands for water in an aquifer.



4. Add a scoop of ice cream on top of the chocolate chips.

This stands for a layer of rock or soil that traps groundwater. It's called a confining layer.



5. Add a teaspoon of sprinkles over the ice cream.

This stands for soil and leaves near the surface.

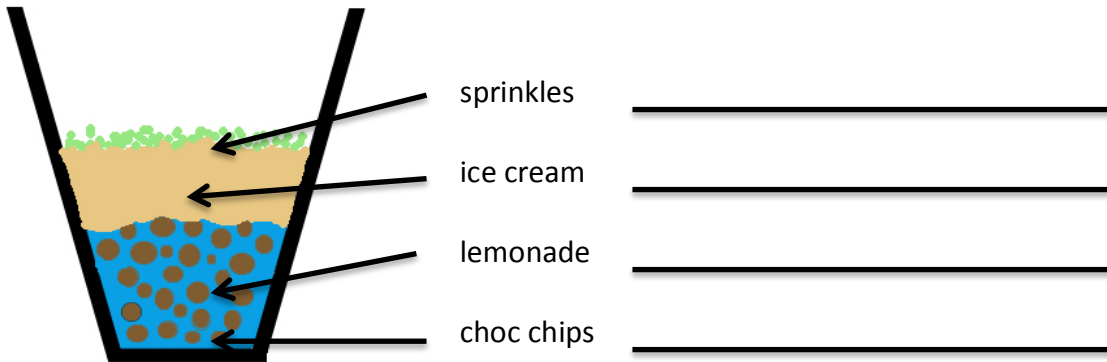


- Push a straw through the ice cream into the chocolate chips.
 Drink the lemonade.
 This stands for a bore that pumps up water from an aquifer.



Questions

- Name the parts of a real aquifer the food and drink stand for.



- The lemonade fills spaces between the chocolate chips. We say the chocolate chip layer is porous. What fills the spaces in a real aquifer?

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- You used a straw to get to the lemonade. How can you get to water in a real aquifer?

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3. What happened when you drank the lemonade?

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4. What happens to a real aquifer when water is pumped out?

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5. Does your model help to show what a real aquifer is like?

What parts help?	What parts don't help?