

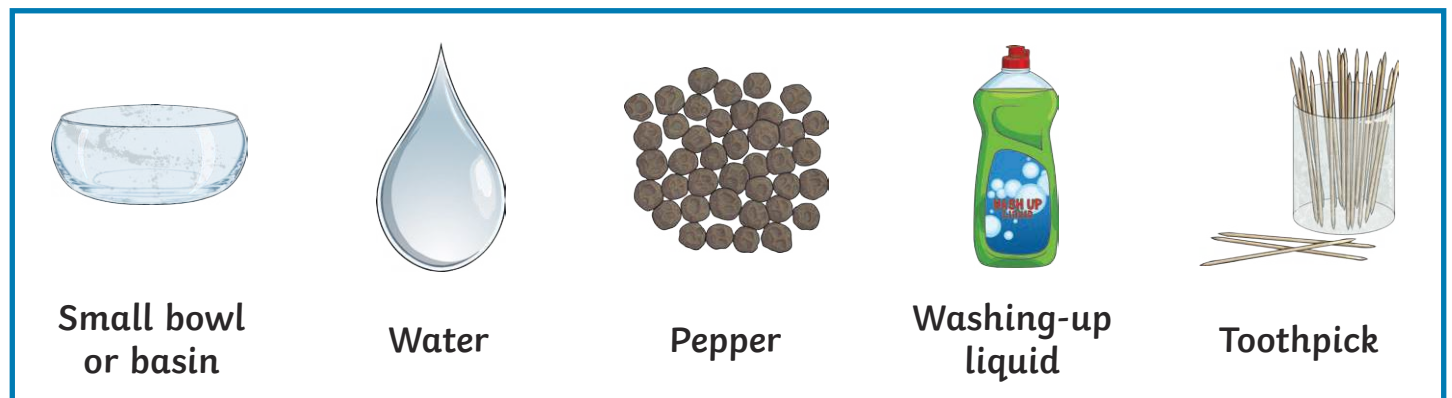
# Surface Tension - Chasing Pepper

**Science Unit:** Energy and Forces: Surface Tension

**Skills Development:** Observing and experimenting

I can explain surface tension.

## Materials



## Instructions

- 1 Place some water into the bowl or basin.
- 2 Sprinkle some pepper on the surface of the water.
- 3 Put a drop of washing-up liquid on the top of the toothpick.
- 4 Dab the toothpick into the surface of the water.

## What's Happening?

The pepper will move away from the toothpick.

## Scientific Principles

The pepper floats on the surface of the water because there is a skin on the top of the water created by surface tension. When you dab the toothpick in the water, you break the surface tension.