

# Ocean Investigation Lab

**Topic:** Salinity and Density

**Directions:** Read all procedures before beginning. On your lab sheet, fill in the topic line and answer the question “What do you know about the topic?”

**Materials:** Ocean circulation model, tap water, concentrated salt solution (blue)

**Procedure:**

1. Fill the ocean circulation model's vertical and cross tubes with water  $\frac{3}{4}$  full. The level should be equal on both sides.
2. The remaining portions of the tubes will be filled with the concentrated salt solution. Record your prediction on your lab sheet.
3. Add the blue salt solution to the left tube slowly, the tubes do not have to be full.
4. Observe what happens to the water initially. Record these observations.
5. Observe the movement after five additional minutes and record any changes.
6. Summarize your investigation on the lab sheet.
7. Answer “Are there new questions or investigations you would like to try?” on your lab sheet.
8. Prepare your station for the next group by dumping the water out of the tubes and rinsing the vertical and cross tubes.