

**Some insects can walk on water. How do you think they do it?**

**Can you do it? What's your explanation?**

**What are some examples of this phenomenon in everyday life?**

**How could engineers use this marvel in their work?**



# Surface Tension

## How do insects walk on water?

The attraction between water molecules creates tension and a delicate membrane. Insects walk on this membrane.

## Can you do it? Explain.

Humans are too massive. The force of gravity overcomes the surface tension of water causing us to sink.

## What are some examples of this phenomenon in everyday life?

- One is floating a needle or small paperclip on water.
- Soaps and detergents break up surface tension.

## Learn about the engineering connection to surface tension

[https://www.teachengineering.org/activities/view/cub\\_earth\\_lesson2\\_activity4](https://www.teachengineering.org/activities/view/cub_earth_lesson2_activity4)



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