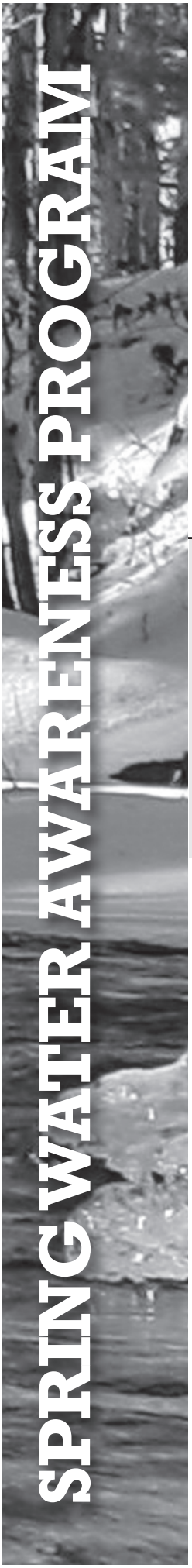

How Strong is the Current? Demonstration

Materials
- Tap
- Plastic Spoon
- A piece of ribbon or string
- Tape

Preparation
Tape a 20 to 30 cm piece of ribbon or string to the end of the handle of the spoon.

Experiment
1. Turn the water on and maintain a steady and strong stream of water to simulate a river or stream with a very strong current.
2. While holding onto the ribbon or string, place the spoon in the stream of water.
3. The spoon will be caught in the stream of water. Try pulling on the ribbon away to demonstrate how the spoon remains trapped in the stream. See how much far the ribbon can be pulled away before the spoon is released from the water.

Discussion

- During the spring, water is moving very quickly. This is because there is a lot of extra water due to the spring melt. Water that is formed from melted ice and snow and falling in the form of spring rain cannot be absorbed into the frozen ground and runs off into low lying areas such as ponds, lakes, streams, rivers, creeks, etc.
- Bodies of water are very cold during the spring season. The water is between 0°C and 5°C.
- The force of moving water is called the CURRENT.
- When objects or people fall into fast moving spring water, the fast and strong current pulls things to the middle making it extremely difficult to swim to the edge. The cold water will also affect your ability to swim as hypothermia will start to set in very quickly.

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