

Optical illusions are not all they seem! In this experiment you can explore how to make objects 'disappear' using their refractive index.

You will need:

- A breaker
- Glycerol
- Water Beads
- Glass objects (test tubes etc.)



Step one

Fill your beaker half way with glycerol.

Step two

Place the test tube into the beaker.

Step three

Fill your test tube with glycerol and watch it disappear! This happens because the density of the glass and glycerol is identical which means that their refractive index is also the same, which causes the illusion of it disappearing!

Step four

You can repeat the experiment with a measuring cylinder to make the whole test tube disappear.