



# Build a Kidney!

We have learned that the kidneys filter blood. This is how they help clean wastes from the body. For this activity, you will build your own “kidney”. It is really some pop bottles, but it will give you an idea of how a filter, like our kidneys, works.

## FOR THIS ACTIVITY, you will need:

- 3 large plastic pop bottles, cut in half (you will use the top half of each)
- a large bowl or bucket • pebbles • sand • paper towel • masking tape
- small jug of dirty water

Ask your teacher to help you find these things.

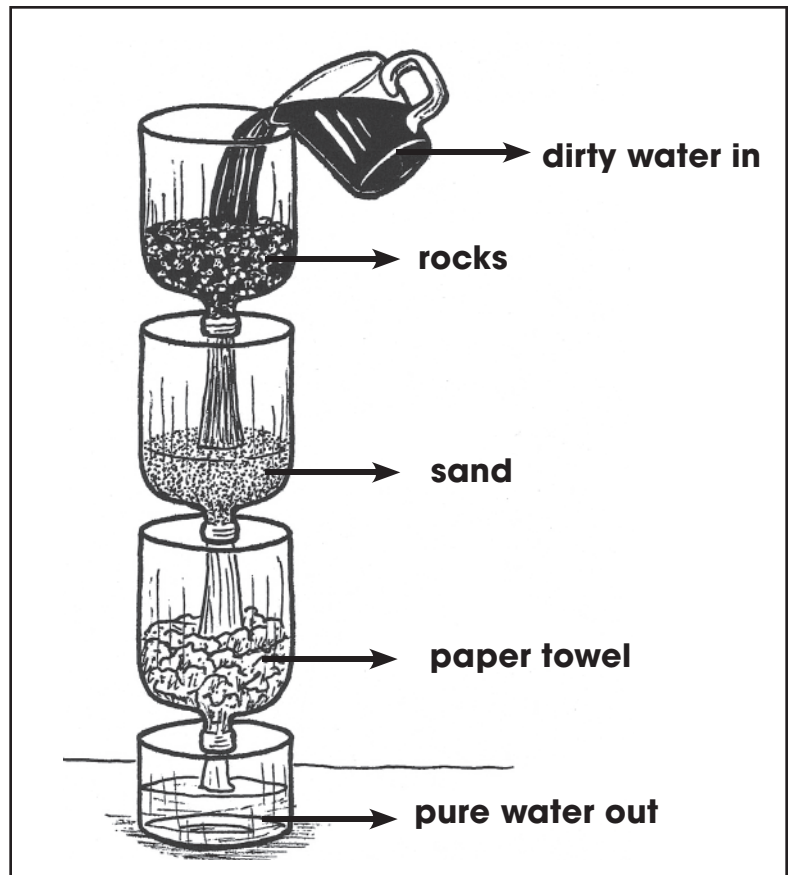
## STEPS:

1. Fill the first bottle with pebbles. Fill the second bottle with wet sand. Fill the third bottle with paper towel.

2. Stack the containers like they are in the picture and tape them together.

They are now in a column.

3. Hold the column of containers over the bucket. Pour the dirty water over the pebbles in the top bottle. The water should filter all the way down into the bucket.



## QUESTIONS:

Answer these questions in your notebook.

1. What does the water in the bucket look like? How is it different from the dirty water you started with?
2. What did the pebbles, sand and paper towel do?
3. What conclusions can you make about how kidneys work?