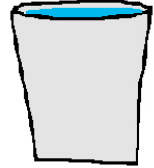


Common Writing Assignment: Science

What happened to the water in the cup?

Ms. Miller accidentally left her cup of water on her desk over the weekend. When she left it there on Friday, it was filled to the top. On Monday morning, there was less water in the cup. She asks her class, “What happened to the water in the cup?” Students came up with the following claims, which she writes on the board.



- Some of the water disappeared and no longer exists.
- Some of the water evaporated and entered the air.
- Some of the water went through the side of the bottle and condensed on the outside.
- The amount of water is the same, but it is colder so takes up less space.

Using what you have learned from your work during the Water unit, determine which claim you think is the strongest explanation for what happened to the water. Use evidence to support your claim and explain your reasoning.

Don't Forget to...

Plan your writing using an outline, web or graphic organizer. As you write each draft of your assignment, it's important to use what you know as a writer to communicate your ideas effectively.

- ✓ Provide a clear claim that answers the question.
- ✓ Include evidence -- using data from class activities, experiments and other resources.
- ✓ Include reasoning to show how your evidence supports your claim.
- ✓ Use vocabulary that you have learned in science class.
- ✓ Use correct grammar and punctuation, and be sure there are no spelling errors.