

String Ice

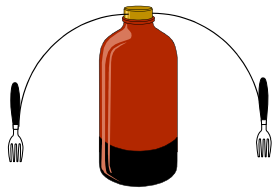
Water is a remarkable substance because it can exist in three different forms - solid, liquid and gas. Ice is strong enough to wreck ships (when it's in the form of a glacier). Is ice strong enough to keep a string from cutting it in half?

You will need:

- A thin string
- A bottle with a cork
- An ice cube
- 2 heavy forks

Push the cork into the bottle so that about 1 inch sticks out. Balance the ice cube on the top of the cork. Cut a piece of string about 1 foot 4 inches long and tie one fork to each end. Hang the string over the ice cube. Put the bottle in the refrigerator. The string will pass through the ice without dividing it in half.

Here's how it works: The pressure of the string makes the ice melt just below it. Water forms under the string and it slides down through the ice. The ice freezes again just above the string. This is what happens when people skate on ice. Their weight presses on the ice and makes it melt under the skate blades.



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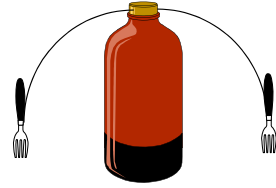
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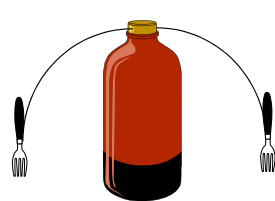
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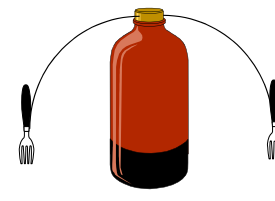
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