

Capillary Action

Ever wipe your wet face with a cotton towel? How does it absorb all the water? It is called capillary action. Water like many other liquids has the property to rise up against gravity when it comes in contact with small tubes. In case of a towel, the numerous tiny pores in it act as tubes absorbing the water. Capillary action is responsible for many phenomena we see in our day to day life.



Capillary action helps prevent the wilting of flowers kept in a vase filled with water.



Have you ever wondered why the wick of an oil lamp stays lighted. It is actually the capillary action

of the wick which maintains constant supply of oil to keep the flame glowing.



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