

ENGINEERING  
CHALLENGE

15

# GELATIN AND OIL



THE  
JAMES  
DYSON  
FOUNDATION

# GELATIN AND OIL

## ENGINEERING CHALLENGE 15

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### The brief

Try to move gelatin cubes from one place to another using chopsticks.

### Materials

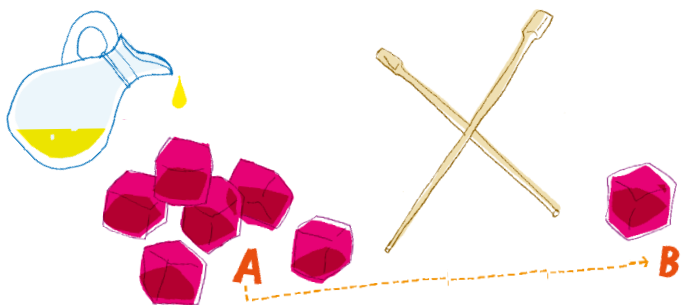
.....  
Gelatin cubes

.....  
Chopsticks

.....  
Olive oil

### The method

1. Try to move gelatin cubes from one place to another using chopsticks.
2. Now cover the cubes in oil and try again.



### How does it work?

In order to grip an object, you need friction. When a lubricant like oil or water blocks the force of friction it becomes very difficult for two objects to make contact with each other.

### Did you know?

Oil is used in engines to allow moving parts to slide past one another with ease – avoiding wear and tear.

