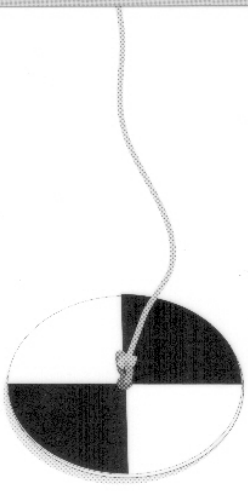
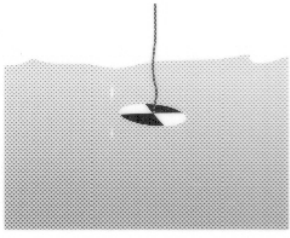
Field Test Procedures- Turbidity

Turbidity Test

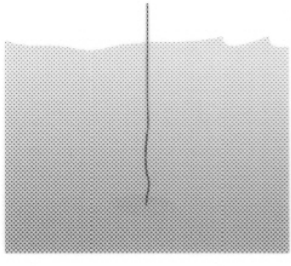
1



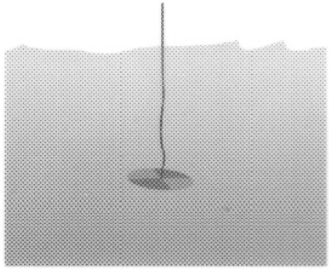
2 Lower Secchi disk to surface. Mark cord. This is point A.



3 Lower Secci Disk until you can't see it. Mark cord. This is point B.



4 Lower it beyond that mark, then raise it slowly until you see the disk again. This is point C. Average the distance from points A to B, and points A to C, and that is your turbidity measurement.



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Lab Activity- Turbidity

Introduction and Goals

Students will become familiar with the Secchi disk by using it to demonstrate how sediments influence the visibility of the water.

Testing Procedure

Part I: Creating a Secchi disk

1) Obtain a 2L white soda bottle top and divide the top side of the top into 4 equal sections.
2) Use a black permanent marker and color in two opposite sections of the top (see picture).
3) Using a knife or scissors, poke a small hole in the middle of the top. Remember, you are working with sharp objects, so be careful!
4) Place a 40 cm white piece of string through the hole and tie a knot in the end so the string cannot pull back through the hole.
5) Using a small weighted object such as a fishing weight, penny, rock, etc. attach it to the underside of the top over the knot to add weight to the Secchi disk. Pull the string taught so there is no slack in the line underneath the top.
6) Using a ruler and a black marker, place a dark marking every cm starting from the top of the Secchi disk.
7) Using a filled graduated cylinder, place the Secchi disk into the cylinder and lower it slowly to test it. If it does not sink, add more weight.

Part II: Turbidity test

1) Using a 25 mL graduated cylinder, add 25 mL of water.
5) Repeat this process adding 1/2 tablespoon c cannot be seen below 1 cm. Be sure to rec record any observations.
6) Using graph paper, graph your results.

Results and Observations

How does a Secchi disk aid scientists in determ How do sediments play a role in turbidity? Wh sediment is added to any given body of water? biological, physical, and chemical aspects of th might prompt scientists to pay special attention Explain your graphed results.