



**SOTEAG**

SHETLAND OIL TERMINAL  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
ADVISORY GROUP

## Ice cube experiment diagram

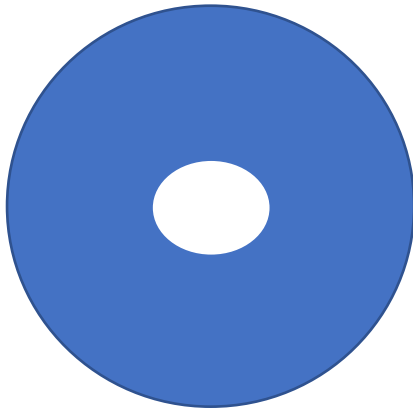


Plate 1: Dry cotton ball

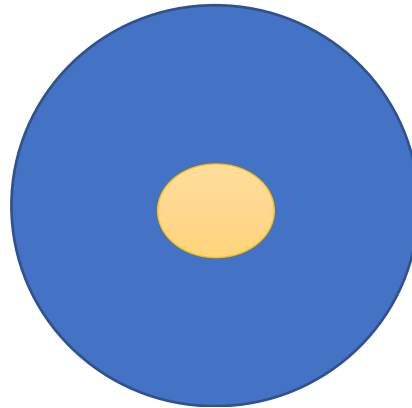


Plate 2: Cotton ball soaked  
in oil



Plate 3: Dry cotton ball on  
an ice cube



Plate 4: Cotton ball soaked  
in oil on an ice cube

1. Ask the children to pick up the two dry cotton balls (the one that is on the ice cube (plate 3) and the one that is on the plate (plate 1)).  
Ask the children to describe the temperature – which one is colder?
2. Now ask the children to pick up the two oil-soaked cotton balls (the one that is on the ice cube (plate 4) and the one that is on the plate (plate 2)).  
Ask the children to describe the temperature – which one is colder?
3. Now ask the children to pick up the two cotton balls that are on the ice cubes (plates 3 & 4).  
Again, ask the children to describe the temperature – which is colder? The oil-soaked cotton ball should be colder.
4. Imagine that these cotton balls are animals e.g. birds or otters. If there is an oil spill it is very important that there is a plan in place to help rescue these animals who might find it hard to keep warm if the oil gets onto their body. The oil destroys the natural insulation that animals have.