

# LONG ISLAND SOUND IN A BOTTLE



Did you know the Connecticut River empties into the Atlantic Ocean? Every second, it pours about 19,600 cubic feet of water into its mouth at Long Island Sound, part of the Atlantic Ocean, providing 70% of all the fresh water entering Long Island Sound!

This is a fun activity (with just a few ingredients) where you can create your own “discovery bottle” that looks and acts just like an ocean. Let’s start making waves!!

## WHAT YOU’LL NEED:

- water
- cooking oil (canola, vegetable, or alternately mineral or baby oil)
- blue food coloring
- large bottle (1 or 2-liter soda bottle, mouthwash bottle, etc.)
- funnel

## WHAT YOU’LL DO:

Fill approximately 1/3 of your bottle with water. Add several drops of food coloring. Tightly screw the cap on the bottle. Shake the bottle to disperse the food coloring in the water. Make sure it is thoroughly dissolved. Now, simply top up the bottle with oil. Leave at least 2 inches of space at the top before screwing the cap back on.

## LET THE FUN BEGIN!

Tip the bottle upside down and watch your ocean come to life. The way the waves roll and cascade in the bottle is beautiful and watching the big blobs of color swoosh and fall through the oil is fascinating. The more you agitate the bottle, the more bubbly the ocean becomes. Set your bottle down occasionally to let the bubbles settle, and then start all over again.

Have fun!!



**CONNECTICUT RIVER MUSEUM**  
**67 MAIN STREET, ESSEX, CT 06426**  
**CTRIVERMUSEUM.ORG**