# **Determining Density**

#### Purpose:

Equipment:

- Graduated Cylinder
- Balance

## Hypothesis:



I think the density of the experimental materials will rank in this order:



## Procedure:

- 1. Complete the hypothesis by ranking all the materials being tested by the class in your predicted order of density.
- 2. Determine the mass of an empty graduated cylinder. Record your results.
- 3. With as much accuracy as possible, pour 20 ml of your experimental material into your graduated cylinder. Record the mass of the graduated cylinder with the substance.
- 4. Repeat step 3, adding more substance to the graduated cylinder, 4 more times until you have a mass of 100 ml of your test substance. Be sure to record the mass after each 20 ml.
- 5. Calculate the mass of your experimental material for each trial as well as the mass to volume ratio report this value as a decimal.
- 6. When you have your average mass to volume ratio, record it on the class tracking sheet.

Note: Consider the following safety precaution:

Water spilled on the floor can be very slippery, please be careful to clean up any messes you make.

#### Data:

Volume (ml)	Mass of Container (g)	Mass of Container and Substance (g)	Mass of Substance (g)	Ratio of Mass to Volume in Decimal Form (g/ml)
20				
40				
60				
80				
100				
Average				

The mass to volume ratio of the experimental materials rank in this order:



## Discussion:

Complete the following.

1. What does the mass to volume ratio represent?

- 2. At which volume should your results be most accurate?
- 3. Discuss any sources of error in the experiment. (A source of error is anything that could cause you to get the wrong results, whether it be your overall experiment, or a difference from trial to trial.)