

Like Water Off a Duck's Back

Experiment:

*“Certain birds, such as ducks, have oil glands on their rears. As these birds **preen** their feathers the oils are spread throughout their **plumage** allowing them to stay dry, warm, and **buoyant**.”*

Wax and oil from a bird's oil gland have similar properties. Neither can be dissolved in water. To test this, take a piece of wax paper and a piece of regular computer paper and drop a small amount of water on each piece. What happens? You will find that water soaks into the regular computer paper. Meanwhile, the water on the wax paper will remain as a drop and not soak into it.

