**Lambskin Condoms and Hypertonic Fluids**

This is an old experiment that has been done for years and I don’t know who to give credit to.

Lambskin condom

Large clear glass container (a quart sized fruit jar works well)

Large pair of clamps to seal off the opening of the condom and suspend the condom across the mouth of the jar.

Salt and/or baking soda

Food coloring

Water

Fill the jar with room temperature water and add a lot of salt and/or baking soda. Make sure it isn’t too much to not be able to dissolve though. Stir well.

Fill the condom nearly ¾ of the way full of water, add a lot of food coloring (it will get watered down in color so make it dark) and stir. Twist the open end of the condom and clamp off at the very end. Suspend the clamps across the mouth of the jar so the condom is completely or nearly completely submerged in the water.

After an hour, the condom should be less full than when you started and you can see that the clear fluid that the jar held is now tinged with color.

Water follows sodium. Sodium bicarbonate is the chemical name for Baking Soda. Sodium Chloride is the chemical name for Table Salt. By making the solution in the jar HYPERTONIC, the hypotonic fluid from the condom will be drawn in to the HYPERTONIC fluid. In order to track the water movement, the food coloring just makes it easier to see the changes.

Lambskin condoms are semi-permeable membranes. They allow some things to go through but holds in others. This is a great way of showing how fluid and solutes move back and forth.

As an additional note: This can also be used for Sex Education to show that Lambskin condoms are great for preventing pregnancy but does NOT prevent STDS. Sperm are relatively big things and viruses are really small and can go through the pores of the condom. Only latex or polyurethane condoms can prevent both pregnancy AND STDS (but only if used correctly ;) )