Friction Mini Lab

The purpose of this lab is for students to observe how friction is affected by different substances.

Material: water, hand soap virgin olive oil, baby powder, corn/veg. oil, motor oil, and Vaseline.

Set up six “stations” around the room. At each station a different substance will be used.

**Station one:** One student rubs hands together until warm, when student’s hands are warm second student adds small amount of water over the rubbing hands. Student continues to rub for another 30 sec. Students record what happened. Have students wash hands then rotate to next station.

**Station two:** Same as one but, use olive oil.

**Station three:** Same as one but, use baby powder.

**Station four:** Same as one but, use vegetable oil.
Station five: Same as one but, use Vaseline.

Station six: Same as one but, use motor oil.

When all students finish rotating, have students discuss what substances work better on hands. Have students discuss where and when different substances are best used in our world.