

Student Examples: Making Connections Between Relational Causality and Everyday Life

One example of something that may have to do with relative density is salad dressing. If you have ever looked at a bottle of Italian dressing specifically, you will see that when undisturbed, the oil in the dressing settles on the top of the bottle. The oil must be less dense than the rest of the dressing with the seasonings.

Also, a rubber ducky is an example of something that may have to do with relative density. When placed in water, the rubber ducky floats. Since it floats, the rubber plus air (rubber duckies have mixed density) must be less dense than the water.

Density helps explain things when my little brother takes a bath. When you run the water, you add bubbles to make it bubbly. The bubbles go on top of the water. This happens because more than half of a bubble is air, and that's a small amount of density. The least amount of density goes on top of the material that has more density.

One example of relative density is ice in liquids. If ice cubes are in water, they will float. But, if you put ice cubes in your alcohol, they will sink. This is because ice is denser than alcohol but not water.

Another example are the kickboards you use in the pool. The material in it has to be very light because it is less dense than water. In the pool, it floats.