Water in a Bucket

Estimated Time for Activity: ~5 minutes

Optional Objectives:
The students will:

- Understand the concept of centripetal acceleration.

Materials:

- Bucket
- Water

Optional Vocabulary:

- Circular motion
- Centripetal acceleration

Procedures:

- Put enough water in the bucket to cover the bottom and make depth of water about 1” deep.
- Ask the students what would happen if you swing the water around (like a softball pitch).
- Swing the bucket and observe that if it is done fast enough, the water stays in the bucket, even above your head.

Optional Post-Activity Question(s):

- What makes the water stay in the bucket?