A Clepsydra is a clock that uses water to tell time. This kind of gadget was especially handy for the ancients as it allowed them to keep track of time both indoors and on days when the sun wasn’t shining. While never reaching accuracy required for today’s standard of time keeping, the water clock was the most accurate and commonly used timekeeping device for millennia, until it was replaced by the more accurate pendulum clock in 17th century Europe.

**MATERIALS**
- One large tin can and one taller, thinner can
- Thin metal pipe
- Piece of cork
- Length of dowel
- Two large blocks of wood - 10” by 18” & 10” by 5”
- One small square block of wood - 4”
- Two small wooden blocks
- 2x screw eyes and a piece of card

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. **Attach the base of the Clepsydra to the large wooden backing**, making sure it is connected at a right angle.

2. **Attach the platform for the large water container on the wooden backing**.

3. **Attach the two small wooden blocks to the wooden backing, one an inch from the top of the wood and the other an inch above the height of your thinner vessel**.

4. **Attach two small screw eyes to the wooden blocks**.

5. **Measure and cut a length of dowel that is the same approx height as the wooden back. This will make up the floating measuring device. Attach this to a length of cork and thread through the two screw eyes and into the thin container**.

6. **Attach a small triangular pointer at the point just below the lower screw eye when the float is sitting at the base of the small can**.

7. **Drill a hole in the larger can and insert a small thin pipe. Make sure the connecting between the two is perfectly water tight**. Putty or super glue will achieve this.

8. **Make sure that water runs freely from the large reservoir down the thin pipe to the smaller reservoir. Once it does, carefully bend or construct the pipe with pliers to limit the amount of water to a slow trickle or consistent drip**.

9. **Once you have constructed the mechanism as outlined above, all that needs to be done is calibrate it. To do this, simply fill the upper reservoir and mark off at 15/30 minute intervals. The point at which the arrow attached to the float has risen to.”