

A Classroom Demonstration for *The Life of a Leaf*

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Laplace's Law (Page 120):

A collection of sections of plastic pipe from the local hardware store, all rated at the same pressure (say, 40 psi) will have wall thicknesses that increase linearly with their diameters—a decent demonstration of the commercial recognition of Laplace's law. An alternative to laying out hard cash is a trip to the appropriate emporium with a hand-held caliper. One might go further, plotting, from some catalog or website, overall diameter versus price (or weight) per foot or per ten-foot length. Either ought to increase with the square of diameter.