

Panama Canal Locks Demonstration

The space shuttle floats and will travel from the left tank to the right. Fill each compartment “lock” up with water (more in the left, less in the middle, and much less in the right). Make sure that both sections of the plastic tubing are clamped off. The dividers will slide out to demonstrate the movement from one “lock” to the next. Quickly remove the first divider (without equalizing the water) to demonstrate what would happen to large ships if there was no equalization. Remove the clamp and allow the water between the two dividers to equalize. Remove the second divider and demonstrate how the boat moves nicely between the second and third “locks.”

