

Will it dissolve?



This fast experiment does not take much time to set up, but can provide many fun discussions. You will just need a clear bowl filled with water, and several other bowls each filled with a variety of items: salt, sugar, baking soda, rice, tea, coffee, spices. Allow your child to put one ingredient into the bowl of water. Then, see if it dissolves. Continue with the experiment, removing the old water and re-filling the bowl each time.

How does an elephant brush his teeth?

Have you ever wondered what elephant toothpaste might look like? Tell your kids that you are going to make some together.

What you'll need for this project:

- A two-litre bottle, cleaned
- Hydrogen peroxide solution (at least 6% or greater)
- Dishwashing soap (liquid)
- Warm water
- One yeast packet
- Food colouring
- A cooking pan (such as for a roast)



Directions:

1. Place the bottle upright in the middle of the cooking pan
2. Fill the bottle with a half cup of hydrogen peroxide, a few drops of the food colouring, and a few drops of the dishwashing soap
3. In another bowl, mix together two tablespoons of the warm water and the yeast, allowing the yeast to dissolve
4. Allow your child to *SLOWLY* pour the yeast mixture into the bottle mixture and watch the elephant toothpaste come to life

Now you see it, now you don't

Want to visually explain how bleach works? This is as easy as it gets!

What you'll need for this project:

- Two clear plastic cups
- Food colouring (red is great to use)
- Bleach
- Water



Directions:

1. Fill one plastic cup three-quarters of the way with water
2. Add several drops of food colouring to the water and mix it up until it is red/pink
3. Fill the other plastic cup one-quarter of the way with bleach
4. Slowly add the bleach to the water mixture
5. Watch as the bleach expands the molecules of dye attached to the water molecules, thereby making the water look clear again

WARNING: Do not under any circumstances drink the bleached water!

Rain, Rain, Don't go away

Make it rain inside your house.

You'll need:

- A plate
- A glass mason jar
- Ice cubes (about one or two cups)
- Very hot water



Place the hot water into the glass jar, about a third of the way up. Put the plate on top of the jar. Place all the ice cubes carefully on the plate. Watch the inside of the jar start to exhibit rain!

What Colour is Your Celery?



Little kids love to see how foods can be used for the purpose of science. In this experiment, they'll play with celery and food colouring.

You will just need some celery stalks, water, clear glasses and several shades of food colouring. Fill each glass halfway with water and then add some food dye to each glass. Cut the celery stalks so the leafy part is at the top. Place the other end directly into the glass. Over several hours, the colored water will begin to move up into the stalk. After a period of time, the kids will see how the porous celery has absorbed the coloured water.

NOTE: Some children are allergic to certain food dyes, so it is best not to eat this experiment as a snack!

Make your own jellyfish



This experiment is mostly for pleasure, but kids really do love the results.

You'll only need a one- or two-liter clear bottle (cleaned), a clear plastic grocery bag, dyed water (blue is nice), scissors and a white string. First, fill the bottle halfway with the dyed water. Then, lay out your plastic grocery bag. Start cutting it into small strips (you may need to do some trial runs with this.) Tie the strips together to form a jellyfish-like shape.

Now, push the plastic "jellyfish" into the dyed water. Gently add more dyed water on top of it, leaving at least two or three inches of air at the top of the bottle. Tightly secure the top to the bottle, and then allow your children to play with the "jellyfish in a bottle".

Magnetic Magic



Want to show a little one the power of magnets? Get an empty, clear two-litre bottle. Fill it with half-inch long pipe cleaner bits. (You can just cut them to this size.) There should be about 3-4 inches worth at the bottom of the bottle when you are finished.

It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's a Hovercraft!

Create a simple hovercraft that's cool to operate using only a CD (make sure it's one you don't want to use again), a push-up top from a water bottle (cleaned), a balloon (round is best) and some superglue.

Directions:

1. Superglue the push-up top to the middle of the CD
2. After the glue is dry, blow up the balloon
3. Affix the balloon over the push-up top
4. Place the CD onto a non-carpeted, bare floor and watch as the CD hovers from the escaping balloon air



DIY Tornado

You can easily show how a tornado works with a mason jar, water and dishwashing detergent. Simply fill the mason jar about three-quarters of the way full with water, and add a few drops of the dishwashing detergent. Secure the top on the jar, and then shake it hard. Place the jar on a table, and a funnel should appear. Voila! Instant tornado!

