



Make sure this activity has adult supervision

ACTIVITY 2: AN UNEXPECTED ERUPTION

Resources

Watch this video to see what you need, and the experiment in action:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWeq9X327Zs>

Method

- 1 Remove the lid from the Diet Lemonade bottle and add a few drops of Blue food colouring
- 2 Replace the lid and gently invert the bottle
- 3 Go outside, place the bottle on a flat surface and remove the lid from the bottle of Diet Lemonade
- 4 Roll the paper into a tube around a pack of Mentos mints, tape it into place and pull it off the roll of mints
- 5 Hold your finger over one end of the paper tube and have the children fill it up with mints
- 6 Hold the mints over the mouth of the bottle and count down from ten
- 7 When you shout “one”, quickly dump the mints into the bottle and stand back to watch the eruption

The Science Bit

Like Betsie and Bertie’s mistaken H_2O_2 experiment, this experiment results in a big eruption of bubbles. This eruption occurs because Carbon Dioxide (the gas that causes bubbles in fizzy drinks), reacts with the outer surface of the mints. As the mints are heavy and sink to the bottom, the bubbles are pushed to the top, resulting in the eruption!



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