

Pepper Scatter



Materials: clear bowl, pepper, liquid detergent

Directions: Fill the bowl with water. Sprinkle the pepper on top. Squirt a drop of detergent in the middle of the bowl. Observe what the pepper does.

What makes the pepper scatter?

Hint! Do a similar experiment by putting the end of a bar of soap in the bowl with pepper.



Shiny Pennies



Materials: old pennies, vinegar, salt, cup, and spoon

Directions: Put 1/2 cup of vinegar in the cup. Add 1 Tbsp. salt, and mix to dissolve. Drop the pennies in the cup and stir them around while you count to 25. Take the pennies out of the cup and rinse them off in water. Taaa Daaa! Shiny pennies just like magic!

Hint! Put this experiment in a learning center so children can repeat it. Try shining pennies with ketchup or lemon juice.

Happy Face Balloon

Materials: balloon (Use a large balloon and blow it up first to make sure it will inflate easily.) permanent marker, drink bottle, vinegar, baking soda, spoon, funnel

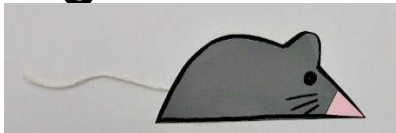


Directions: Blow up the balloon and draw a happy face on it with the marker. Put $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of vinegar in the bottle. Put several spoonfuls of baking soda in the balloon using the funnel. Insert the end of the balloon over the mouth of the bottle. Hold up the balloon so the baking soda falls in the bottle and watch what happens.

What made the balloon blow up?

Have children draw pictures in sequential order to show how this experiment was conducted.

Magnetic Mouse



Materials: magnet, paper cut in the shape of a little mouse, paper clip, cardboard or paper plate

Directions: Attach a paper clip to the mouse. Place the mouse on top of the cardboard. Slide the magnet under the cardboard to make the mouse move.

Hint! Put iron filings, paper clips, or magnetic letters in the sand table. Have children go on a treasure hunt and find the objects with a magnet.

What's Up?

Materials: 2 stalks of celery (with the leafy tops),
2 clear glasses, food coloring



Directions: Place the stalks of celery in two glasses of water. Add red food coloring to one cup and blue to the other. Have children predict what they think will happen. Observe for several days.

Hint! You can do a similar experiment with white carnations or daffodils. Or, slit only one stalk of celery from the bottom half way up. Put one end in blue water and the other end in red water.

Funnel Phone



Materials: 2 plastic funnels, 4' to 8' of plastic tubing 3/8" thick
(available at hardware stores), tape

Directions: Fit each end of the plastic tubing in one of the funnels and tape in place. Have one child hold a funnel to his ear while another child talks into the other funnel. How does sound get from one funnel to the next?

Hint! Make individual phones with paper cups, string, and paper clips. Poke holes in the bottom of two cups and thread the string through the holes. Tie a paper clip to the ends of the string. Let children take turns speaking and listening with the "cup phones."

Growing, Growing!



Materials: clear jar or glass, paper towel, sand or soil, popcorn kernels

Directions: Take a clear jar and fold a paper towel so it fits inside the jar. Put sand or soil inside the paper towel. Drop several beans or popcorn kernels between the paper towel and the cup. Water and place in a sunny spot. Children can observe the seed, root, and stem as they grow.

Hint! Put an old sock over your shoe and walk on the playground where there are a lot of weeds. Place the sock in a zip bag. Water the sock and punch a few small holes in the bag. Hang in a sunny window and watch it grow!