

Chemical reaction demonstration

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The following experiment is one of my favorites. It is quick and simple, only requiring inexpensive supplies that most of us have. When teaching about chemical reactions, this is a very effective visual that students can easily understand.

Supplies:

Baking soda

Vinegar

Balloons

Small funnel

Small empty soda or water bottles

Directions:

Fill each bottle $\frac{1}{3}$ full of vinegar

Using the funnel add 2-3 teaspoons of baking soda to the balloons

Fit the balloon carefully over the top of the bottle, without dropping any baking soda in

Hold up the balloon and let the baking soda fall into the vinegar

Watch as the baking soda mixes to produce carbon dioxide gas and blow up the balloon

How it works:

The vinegar which acts as a base, mixes with the vinegar, which is an acid. The reaction of the two mixing together releases the gas Carbon dioxide which then inflates the balloon.