

Balloon Magic

Get ready to mix materials and make a balloon inflate.
It may seem like magic, but it's actually science!

STEAM Skill

Follows multistep
directions

Materials List

Estimated time: 25 mins.

- Empty water bottle
- Balloon
- 1 cup vinegar
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- Food coloring (optional)
- Funnel (optional)
- **Discovery Page: Balloon Magic**

Instructions

1. Pour 1 cup of vinegar into water bottle (Tip! Having a funnel makes it much easier!). Add a few drops of food coloring to make a colored solution.
2. Stretch the opening of the balloon and add 1 teaspoon of baking soda into the balloon (Tip! Having a funnel helps for this step also! If you don't have a funnel, have an adult stretch the balloon so there is enough room to add baking soda).
3. With adult help, carefully stretch the opening of the balloon and put it over the water bottle. Make sure the baking soda does not get into the water bottle yet!
4. Once the balloon is secured onto the water bottle, dump the baking soda into the water bottle and watch what happens to the balloon!
 - Tip! You may need to hold the balloon onto the water bottle while it expands so it doesn't pop off!



Other ideas

- Draw what happened to the balloon when the vinegar and baking soda mixed on **Discovery Page: Balloon Magic**.
- Try the experiment again- this time adding different amounts of vinegar and baking soda. How do the results change? Discuss with your explorer.

Questions to ask

- Why did the balloon expand? Explain that when you mix vinegar and baking soda, there is a special thing that occurs. It's called a chemical reaction!