

John Adams®

ROALD
DAHL

GEORGE'S MARVELLOUS EXPERIMENT KIT



AGES
8+

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WHAT'S INCLUDED:



- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Card scenery (in 2 parts) | 7. Mini saucepan base and lid | 13. Tubing |
| 2. Tea cup | 8. Muslin | 14. George head |
| 3. Spoon | 9. Grandma Kranky ball | 15. Chicken sheet |
| 4. Saucepan play tray | 10. Rubber band | 16. George mould |
| 5. Rocket pot and lid | 11. Slime medicine pot and lid | 17. Egg separator |
| 6. Acetate sheet | 12. Syringe x2 | 18. Leaflet |

BEFORE YOU START

This marvellous science set will help you become a scientist in your own kitchen. You can explore the wonder of chemistry and understand multiple scientific concepts in a simple and fun way. George's Marvellous Experiments has been developed to encourage you to work scientifically and learn what's happening and why whilst having fun too!

To ensure the best possible results, please make sure to read the instructions thoroughly before you start. It is very important that the ingredients are measured correctly if you are to achieve the desired results.

Most of the equipment you need is included in the box. You will need to supply a few common household items and ingredients which you will have to ask a kind grown up to supply. Ask nicely, I'm sure they won't mind – after all you will be learning some important scientific principles. Details of what needs to be supplied is shown at the start of each experiment.

SAFETY ADVICE FOR SUPERVISING ADULT

- Some of these experiments can be messy, so always wear old clothes and cover your work area.
- These experiments are completely safe when used in the way we describe in this instruction leaflet, but it is vitally important you supervise your child during the experiments to avoid the possibility of injury and help your child at the points mentioned.
- In Roald Dahl's book, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, George feeds his grandmother the potion he makes. Please note that nothing made in this kit should be ingested apart from the Colour Changing Cabbage-Juice Eggs in Activity 4.

LET'S GET STARTED...

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to George's Marvellous Experiment Kit, inspired by Roald Dahl's George's Marvellous Medicine, a wonderful tale of George Kranky, an inquisitive boy who is forced to stay with his witch-like Grandma. Nothing George does is good enough for this mean, selfish, sickly woman.

One day George decides to make his Grandma a new medicine to teach her a lesson and hopefully make her a nicer person. Using the wonder of science and many weird and incredible ingredients, George makes a medicine which has astonishing results.

This science kit won't allow you to create a medicine to cure anybody of being a "miserable old grouch" – which is just as well as it's frankly quite a dangerous thing to do – but this kit is full of marvellous experiments which are full of colour, bubbles, slimy stuff and science fun.

'HOW DO I STOP MYSELF GROWING?' GEORGE ASKED HIS GRANDMA.
"EAT LESS CHOCOLATE," SAID GRANDMA.'

ACTIVITY 1: MAKE A CHOCOLATE-SLIME GEORGE

1. Place 20 grams of chocolate (about 4 pieces) and 15 grams of marshmallows (about 2 large ones) into a bowl.
2. Add 2 full **SPOONS** of water and 1 full **SPOON** of vegetable oil and mix.
3. **ASK AN ADULT** to microwave the mixture for 20 seconds.
4. Now stir to break up the chocolate and marshmallows and mix all the ingredients together.
5. **ASK AN ADULT** to microwave the mixture for a further 15 seconds if necessary.
6. Stir again, pressing any lumps with the back of a spoon until the liquid is fully combined.
7. Add powdered sugar, 2 full **SPOONS** at a time and stir until it is all mixed in.
8. Repeat step 7 until you have a dough-like slime that you can mould in your hands without it sticking to them.
9. Line the **GEORGE MOULD** with cling film.
10. Now press the chocolate slime into the **GEORGE MOULD** until it is all full and place the mould in a fridge for 30 minutes.
11. Once chilled, remove the slime from the mould and see how far you can stretch your chocolate George without breaking. Is it better if you pull fast or slow?

ITEMS FROM THE KIT:

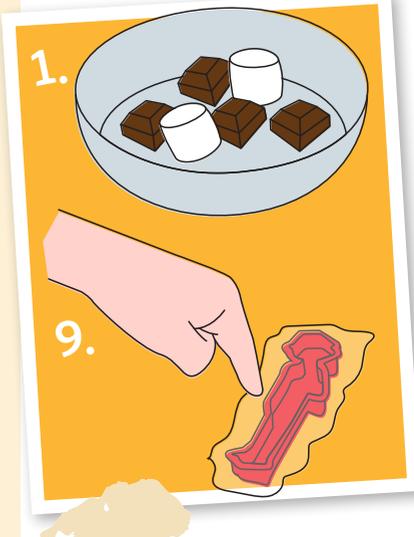
George mould, spoon.

YOU WILL NEED TO SUPPLY:

Milk chocolate, marshmallows, vegetable oil, powdered (icing) sugar, cling film

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Medium.

TIME: 20 minutes plus chilling time.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THIS EXPERIMENT?

Marshmallows are made by mixing sugar and gelatin, heating it until it boils, then whipping the mixture allowing air bubbles to form. When marshmallows cool, the collagen from the gelatin stops the structure from collapsing, leaving a sticky, puffy gelatin. When you melt marshmallows, all the air is removed, leaving a sticky, gooey substance. Adding the sugar binds all the sticky ingredients together until it becomes doughy and returns to a solid state.



'AND ALL OF A SUDDEN HE HAD A TREMENDOUS URGE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT HER. **SOMETHING WHOPPING**
SOMETHING ABSOLUTELY TERRIFIC.'



ITEMS FROM THE KIT:

Teacup, spoon, saucepan play tray, mini saucepan.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO SUPPLY:

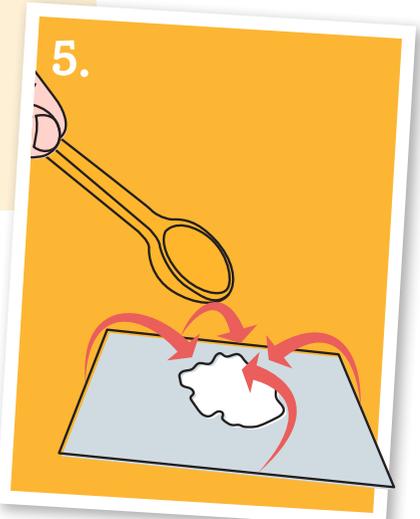
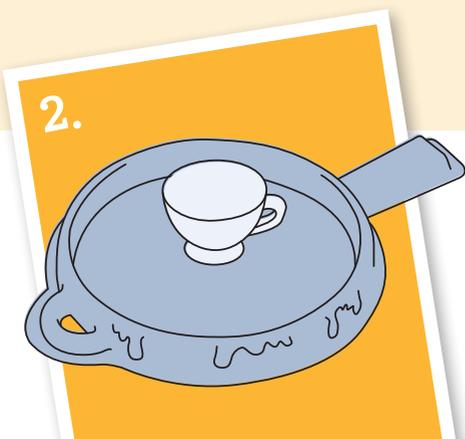
White vinegar, liquid food colouring, washing-up liquid, bicarbonate of soda, toilet tissue.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Easy.

TIME: 10 minutes.

ACTIVITY 2:
EXPLOSION IN A TEACUP

1. In the **MINI SAUCEPAN**, mix together 12 full **SPOONS** of vinegar, with 1 full **SPOON** of food colouring and a squirt of washing-up liquid.
2. Place the **TEACUP** in the **SAUCEPAN PLAY TRAY**.
3. Pour the vinegar solution into the **TEACUP**.
4. Wash and dry the **SPOON**.
5. Put 2 **SPOONS** of bicarbonate of soda in a sheet of toilet tissue. Wrap the sides of the tissue over to enclose the powder.
6. With the flap side down, drop the tissue package into the **TEACUP**, but before you do, predict what will happen.



'WHENEVER HE GOT A WHIFF OF IT UP HIS NOSE,
FIRECRACKERS WENT OFF IN HIS SKULL.'

ITEMS FROM THE KIT:

George head, spoon, mini saucepan, syringe.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO SUPPLY:

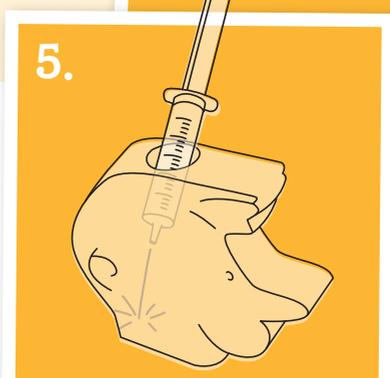
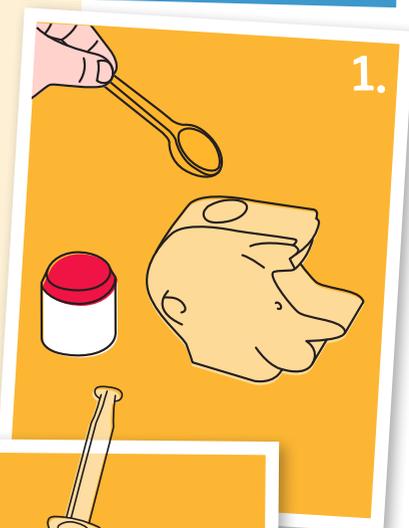
Liquid food colouring, oil, white vinegar, bicarbonate of soda.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Easy.

TIME: 10 minutes.

ACTIVITY 3:
FIREWORKS IN GEORGE'S
MIND

1. Add 3 full **SPOONS** of bicarbonate of soda into **GEORGE'S HEAD**.
2. Now pour in oil until **GEORGE'S HEAD** is 3/4 full.
3. Mix 4 full **SPOONS** of vinegar and 1 full **SPOON** of food colouring in the **MINI SAUCEPAN**.
4. Put the end of the **SYRINGE** into the vinegar solution and pull the plunger to fill the chamber.
5. Gently squirt the vinegar water into **GEORGE'S HEAD**.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THESE EXPERIMENTS?

Bicarbonate of soda is another name for the chemical sodium bicarbonate. This is an alkaline that, when mixed with the acetic acid in the vinegar, creates carbon dioxide gas. The drops of vinegar fall through the oil to the bottom of the bottle and reacts with the bicarbonate. These bubbles created attach themselves to the coloured vinegar and cause them to float to the surface. When the bubbles pop, the colour sinks back to the bottom of the bottle.

“NEVER EAT CHOCOLATE, EAT CABBAGE...3 TIMES A DAY. **MOUNTAINS OF CABBAGE,**” SAID GRANDMA. ’

ITEMS FROM THE KIT:

Egg separator, spoon.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO SUPPLY:

Eggs, red cabbage, lemon juice.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Medium.

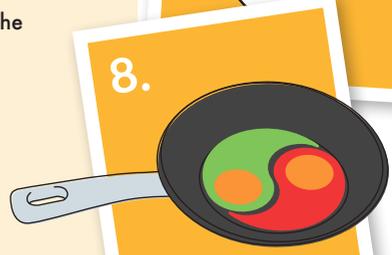
TIME: 20 minutes.

ACTIVITY 4: COLOUR CHANGING CABBAGE- JUICE EGGS

1. **ASK AN ADULT** to grate 100 grams of red cabbage into a bowl.
2. **ASK AN ADULT** to boil a kettle and pour the hot water onto the cabbage so that it just covers the top.
3. Stir then wait 5 minutes before pouring the liquid through a sieve into a jug to get a jug of red cabbage juice.
4. Place the **EGG SEPARATOR** on top of a cup. Crack an egg and pour it onto the **EGG SEPARATOR**. The whites will drip through in to the cup, leaving the yolk in the **EGG SEPARATOR**.
5. Repeat step 4 with a separate cup and another egg.
6. Add 4 full **SPOONS** of red cabbage juice into egg white #1. Stir.
7. Add 4 full **SPOONS** of red cabbage juice into egg white #2. Stir then add ½ a **SPOON** of lemon juice. Stir.
8. **ASK AN ADULT** to pour each egg white mixture into separate halves of an oiled, non-stick frying pan with the yolks in the middle, then fry to form a tasty, crazy-coloured snack.



THIS
ACTIVITY
IS SAFE
TO EAT.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THESE EXPERIMENTS?

Red cabbage juice has an interesting feature. It contains anthocyanins, which change colour depending on the acidity levels. Red cabbage juice has a purple colour. When cabbage juice is added to the egg whites, the mixture turns green, as the egg white is alkaline. When added to the egg whites with the lemon juice it changes to red because the lemon juice is acid.

'THE RULE WOULD BE THIS ... **IF IT WAS RUNNY OR POWDERY OR GOOEY, IN IT WENT.'**

HERE ARE 2 RECIPES FOR MAKING SLIME USING 2 OF THE INGREDIENTS GEORGE USED IN HIS MEDICINE.

ACTIVITY 5: GEORGE'S MARVELLOUS "SLIME" MEDICINE

1. Add 4 full **SPOONS** of toothpaste in a bowl and mix to break it up.
2. Add a small amount of a food colour that you like.
3. Stir until thoroughly mixed.
4. Add a pinch of sugar and continue to mix.
5. Now add more sugar, a pinch at a time and mix.
6. Continue until you get the slime consistency you like.

ITEMS FROM THE KIT:

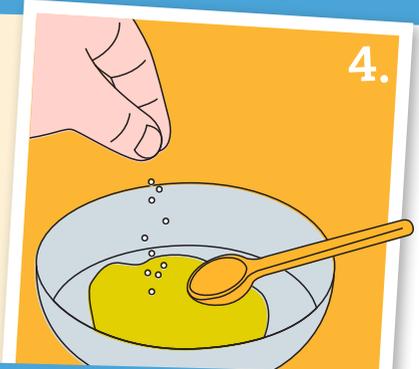
Spoon.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO SUPPLY:

Toothpaste (George didn't describe the brand he used, but any brand you have at home will do), sugar, food colouring (optional).

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Easy.

TIME: 10 minutes, plus chilling time.



OR

1. Add 4 full **SPOONS** of shampoo and 2 full **SPOONS** of cornstarch in a bowl and mix well.
2. Add a small amount of a food colour that you like.
3. Stir until thoroughly mixed.
4. Add 4 full **SPOONS** of tap water and continue to mix.
5. Now add more cornstarch, a **SPOON** at a time and mix.
6. Continue until you get the slime consistency you like.

ITEMS FROM THE KIT:

Spoon.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO SUPPLY:

Shampoo (George used Golden Gloss Hair Shampoo, but you can use any thick shampoo you have at home), cornstarch, food colouring (optional).

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Easy.

TIME: 10 minutes, plus chilling time.

KEEP YOUR
FAVOURITE
SLIME IN
THE SLIME
MEDICINE
POT.



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Like George did, try recreating the slime using different amounts of each ingredient. Do you get the same end result?

'AT ONE POINT HE COULD HAVE SWORN HE SAW BRIGHT SPARKS FLASHING IN THE SWIRLING FOAM.'

ACTIVITY 6: THE CANDY RAINBOW

1. Place the sweets all the way around the edge of a **SAUCEPAN PLAY TRAY**.
2. Pour warm water from a jug slowly into the middle of the **PLAY TRAY** until the water reaches and touches the sweets.
3. Now wait a few minutes and watch what happens.

ITEMS FROM THE KIT:

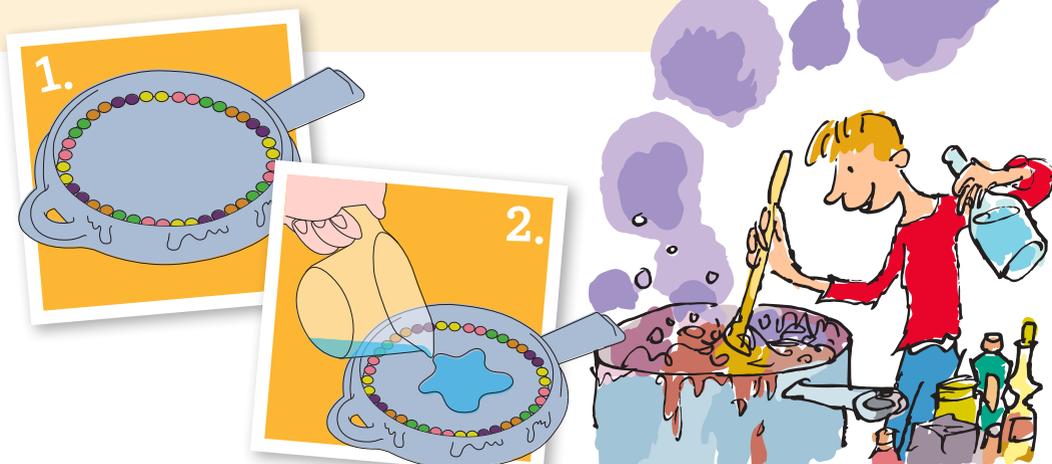
Saucepan play tray.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO SUPPLY:

Skittles® or M&M® sweets.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Easy.

TIME: 10 minutes.



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Try different colour combinations and positions of the sweets and see what patterns you can make.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THIS EXPERIMENT?

In chemistry, dissolving is when one substance called the "solute" passes into another substance called the "solvent". The term solubility refers to how easily a solute dissolves in a solvent. The sweets are covered by a hard, crunchy shell that is made up of sugar and different coloured dyes. When the warm water mixes with the sugary shell, the sugar dissolves and the different coloured dye become soluble and blend.

ACTIVITY 7: MILK FIREWORKS

ITEMS FROM THE KIT:

Saucepan play tray.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO SUPPLY:

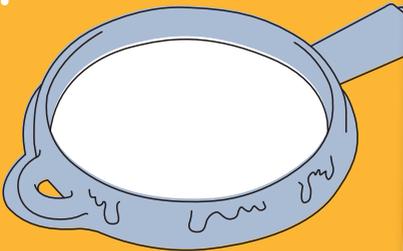
Liquid food colouring,
full-fat milk, washing-up liquid, cotton wool
(or tissue paper).

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Easy.

TIME: 10 minutes.

1. Pour the milk into the **SAUCEPAN PLAY TRAY** until it has just covered all of the base.
2. Let the milk settle for a minute.
3. Add several drops of different food colouring in the centre of the tray of milk so that they are close together, but not touching.
4. Dip a small piece of cotton wool in the washing-up liquid and then gently touch the tip of the cotton swab on the milk's surface near the drops of food colouring. Observe the reaction.
5. Now move the swab to different areas of the tray to start more reactions.

1.



4.



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Try semi-skimmed milk. Does it have the same effect? What happens if you put the food colouring in different positions? Does it create different patterns?

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THIS EXPERIMENT?

Milk has a high surface tension. Surface tension is the attraction of particles at a liquid's surface, creating a "film" that makes moving an object through the surface of a liquid more difficult than moving the object when it is completely submerged in the liquid. Soap has the ability to reduce the surface tension of a liquid, so when it is added to the milk, the surface tension of the milk is reduced. As this occurs, the fat and protein particles in the milk can move more freely and easily and push the food colouring, creating colourful swirls.

'IT WAS WONDERFUL TO STAND THERE STIRRING THIS **AMAZING MIXTURE** AND TO WATCH IT SMOKING BLUE AND BUBBLING AND FROTHING AND FOAMING AS THOUGH IT WERE **ALIVE**.'

ACTIVITY 8: RAINBOWBUBBLE SNAKE

ITEMS FROM THE KIT:

Mini saucepan base, saucepan play tray, muslin, elastic band.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO SUPPLY:
Food colouring, washing-up liquid.

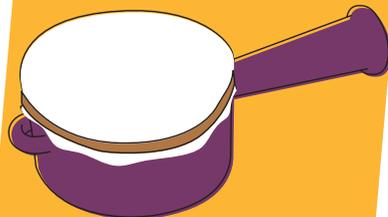
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Easy.

Time: 5 minutes.

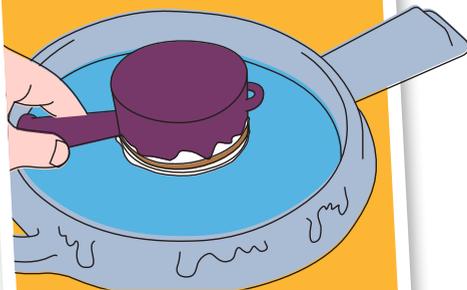
1. Place the **MUSLIN** over the **MINI SAUCEPAN BASE**. Make sure the entire opening is covered. Secure it in place with the **ELASTIC BAND**.
2. Pour cold tap water into the **SAUCEPAN PLAY TRAY** so that it is a few millimetres deep.
3. Add a few drops of washing up liquid to the water and stir.
4. Now dip the **MUSLIN** into the water.
5. Remove and shake off any excess water before adding several drops of the different colour food colourings onto the **MUSLIN**.
6. You are now all set. Put the handle of the **MINI SAUCEPAN** in your mouth.
7. Give a long, consistent-pressure blow and see what happens.



1.



4.



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Try adding more washing-up liquid. Does this create more or fewer bubbles?

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THIS EXPERIMENT?

When you blow air through the **MINI SAUCEPAN**, it squeezes through the soap-soaked **MUSLIN**, creating hundreds of tiny bubbles. Bubbles like to attach to each other, so when they come out of the fabric they form a long rainbow bubble snake coated with the colouring.

'THEN SHE BEGAN TO BULGE. **SHE WAS SWELLING! SHE WAS PUFFING UP ALL OVER!** SOMEONE WAS PUMPING HER UP, THAT'S HOW IT LOOKED!'

ACTIVITY 9: EXPANDING GUMMIES

1. Place a ball of modelling clay inside the handle of the **MINI SAUCEPAN**, which will stop liquid escaping.
2. Pour 150 millilitres of cold tap water into the **MINI SAUCEPAN BASE**.
3. Now add 3 full **SPOONS** of sugar and stir until the sugar has dissolved.
4. Put a gummy bear into the **MINI SAUCEPAN BASE**, add the **LID** and place in the fridge overnight.
5. The next morning take the gummy out and measure its size. Compare it to the size of an original gummy.

ITEMS FROM THE KIT:

Mini saucepan, spoon.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO SUPPLY:

Sugar, gummy bear, modelling clay.

Difficulty Level: Easy.

Time: 10 minutes.

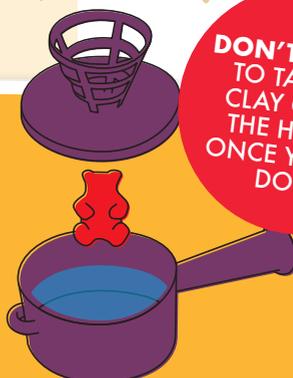


**DON'T FORGET
TO TAKE THE
CLAY OUT OF
THE HANDLE
ONCE YOU ARE
DONE.**

3.



4.



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Repeat the experiment without any sugar in the water. Does this solution make the gummy grow bigger or smaller than the one in the sugar water?

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THIS EXPERIMENT?

Osmosis is a natural process that occurs all around and inside us. In a solution, molecules of a solvent, such as water, travel through a barrier from the side containing a lower concentration of a particular solute to one containing a higher concentration of it, provided the barrier allows only the solvent molecules to pass. Osmosis requires no external force, and occurs because the solvent molecules seek to distribute themselves equally on both sides of the gummy. The water solution has less sugar than the gummy. The water went into the gummy bear to balance out the amount of water and sugar between the bear and solution.

'GRANDMA YELLED "OWEE!" AND HER WHOLE BODY **SHOT UP WHOOSH INTO THE AIR.**'

ITEMS FROM THE KIT:

Rocket pot and lid, sitting Grandma acetate, spoon.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO SUPPLY:

Vinegar, bicarbonate of soda, piece of toilet paper.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Medium.

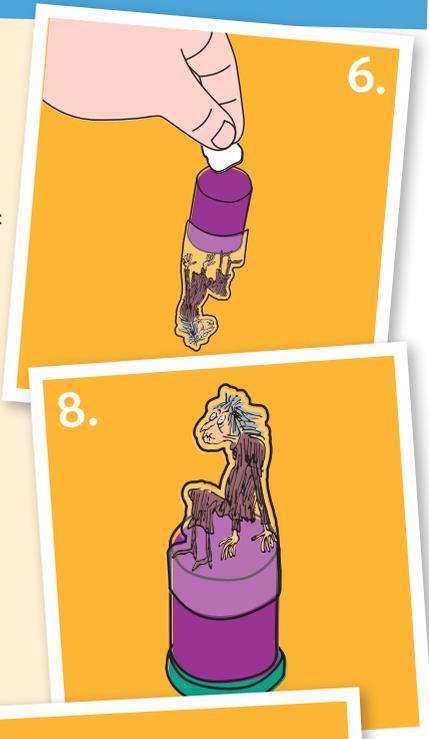
TIME: 10 minutes.

**ACTIVITY 10:
ROCKET-POWERED GRANDMA**

1. Push out the picture of Grandma sitting in her chair from the **ACETATE SHEET**.
2. Wrap the picture around the **ROCKET POT** and attach with a piece of tape.
3. Cut a piece of toilet tissue to size 60 x 60 millimetres
4. Place 1/2 **SPOON** of bicarbonate of soda into the middle of the tissue and fold the sides up to form a small pouch.
5. Half fill the **ROCKET POT** with vinegar.

DO THE NEXT STAGES QUICKLY

6. Drop the tissue parcel into the **ROCKET POT**.
7. Immediately put the **LID** onto the **ROCKET POT** and make sure it is snapped on all the way around.
8. Place the pot on a hard floor with the **LID** at the bottom.
9. Now **STAND BACK**. It may take a while for the experiment to work, so don't go back to it. From what you learnt in activity 2 and 3, what do you think will happen?



WARNING!
THIS
EXPERIMENT IS
MESSY -
DO IT OUTSIDE

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THIS EXPERIMENT?

As you saw in activity 2 and 3, acid and bicarbonate of soda create carbon dioxide. The gas created in this experiment builds up inside the **ROCKET POT** and the only way for it to escape is by blowing the lid off. The release of pressure blows Grandma into the air.

'...AND SHE DIDN'T COME DOWN, SHE STAYED THERE
SUSPENDED IN MID AIR.'

ITEMS FROM THE KIT:
Mini saucepan base and lid,
Grandma Kranky ball.
DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Easy.
TIME: 5 minutes.

ACTIVITY 11: HOVERING GRANDMA

1. Put the **LID** on the **MINI SAUCEPAN BASE**. Make sure it is attached securely so that air can't escape.
2. Place the **GRANDMA KRANKY BALL** into the basket on the **MINI SAUCEPAN LID**.
3. Put the handle of the **MINI SAUCEPAN** in your mouth.
4. Give a long, consistent-pressure blow and see what happens.



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Try and see if you can achieve the same effect using the Grandma ball and hairdryer set on a cool setting.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THIS EXPERIMENT?

A physicist called Daniel Bernoulli discovered that as air moves around an object, it creates different pressures on that object. Faster air means less pressure. Slower air means more pressure. The **GRANDMA KRANKY BALL** will levitate and balance itself in the steady stream of air coming out of the **MINI SAUCEPAN** because it is moving faster (so it has less pressure) than the still air around the ball. If the ball tries to escape the air stream, it experiences pressure from the still air around it, which pushes it back in place, keeping it levitating.



ITEMS FROM THE KIT:

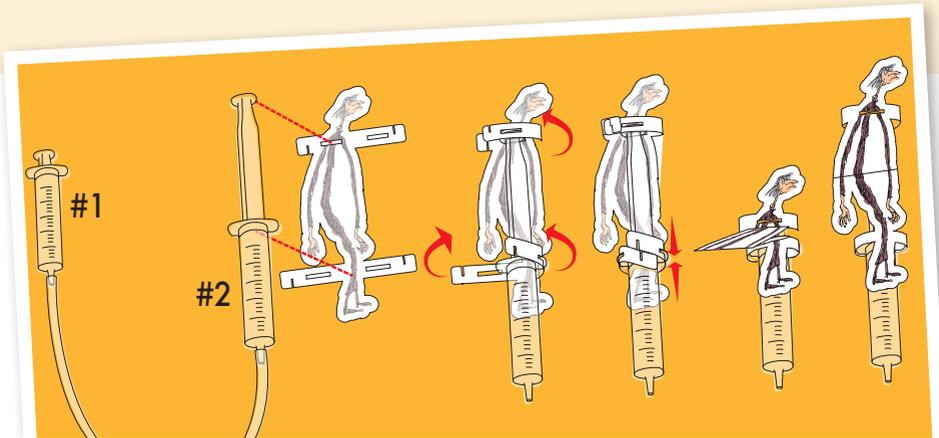
Syringes, tubing, acetate sheet.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Medium.

TIME: 10 minutes.

GETTING READY FOR... ACTIVITIES 12, 13 & 14

1. Push the plunger all the way into **SYRINGE #1** so that there's no air inside the barrel.
2. Pull the plunger out of **SYRINGE #2**. Place your finger over the pointed end so that liquid cannot escape and fill the **SYRINGE** with cold water from a running tap.
3. Gently replace the plunger back into the end of **SYRINGE #2** so that little or no water comes out.
4. Turn on a cold tap very gently so that you have a trickle of water. Place one end of the **TUBING** under the flow so that it fills the **TUBING** with water and shoots out the other end.
5. Place your thumbs over both ends of the **TUBING** to keep it full of water with as little air as possible at both ends.
6. Now attach the **SYRINGE #1** to one end of the water-filled **TUBING** and **SYRINGE #2** to the other. Be sure there are no large air bubbles anywhere in the system.



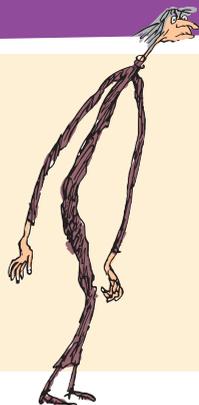
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THIS EXPERIMENT?

These activities are examples of hydraulics – the use of liquids to create a force. Pushing on the plunger in the full syringe applies pressure on the water. As the water is enclosed in the tubing and can't be compressed, the pressure is transmitted through the water and the only part of the system that can expand is the plunger in the other syringe.

'SUDDENLY SHE BEGAN TO GROW ... **UP, UP, UP,** INCH BY INCH.'

ACTIVITIES 12: GROWING GRANDMA

1. Push out the picture of the growing Grandma Kranky from the **ACETATE SHEET**.
2. Attach it to **SYRINGE #2** as shown.
3. Pull and press **SYRINGE #1** and watch what happens.



'THE LEGS WENT ON GROWING AND THE MORE THEY GREW, **THE HIGHER UP INTO THE AIR** WENT THE CHICKEN'S BODY.'

ACTIVITIES 13: LONG-LEGGED CHICKENS

1. Push out the picture of the long-legged chicken from the **ACETATE SHEET**.
2. Attach it to **SYRINGE #2**.
3. Pull and press **SYRINGE #1** and watch what happens.



'THE COCKEREL STOOD QUITE STILL. IT LOOKED AS THOUGH IT HAD A HEADACHE. "**WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ITS NECK?**" MRS. KRANKY SAID. "IT'S GETTING LONGER," GEORGE SAID.'

ACTIVITIES 14: LONG-NECKED COCKEREL

1. Push out the picture of the long-necked cockerel from the **ACETATE SHEET**.
2. Attach it to **SYRINGE #2**.
3. Pull and press **SYRINGE #1** and watch what happens.

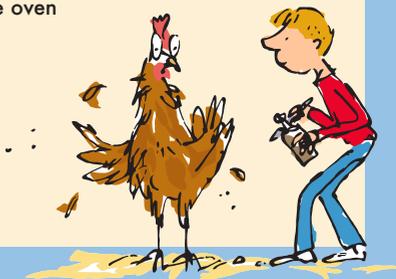


'THEY STOOD THERE STARING AT THE BROWN HEN. "IT'S GETTING SMALLER," GEORGE SAID... "IT'S SHRINKING."

ITEMS FROM THE KIT: Chicken sheet.
Difficulty Level: Easy.
Time: 5 minutes.

ACTIVITY 15: THE SHRINKING HEN

1. **ASK AN ADULT** to heat a baking tray in your oven to 130C.
2. When the oven is at the correct temperature, place the **CHICKEN SHEET** on the preheated tray.
3. **ASK AN ADULT** to place the baking tray back into the oven for 3 minutes.
4. When the time is up, **ASK AN ADULT** to remove the baking tray from the oven.
5. Look what has happened to the chicken! (Be careful, the chicken and the baking tray will be hot.)



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THIS EXPERIMENT?

The **CHICKEN SHEET** is made from a plastic called polystyrene. Normally the long chains of molecules that hold the polystyrene together are bunched up and randomly clumped together, but when the **CHICKEN SHEET** was made, the heating, rolling and cooling process forced the molecules to straighten out and get into a more orderly pattern. All the molecules want to do is bounce back into their original disorderly shape. When the sheet is heated, that allows the molecules to move, which is what creates the shrinking effect.

AFTERCARE: If any of your projects start to look, feel or smell strange, please dispose of them responsibly. If in doubt, throw it out! All plastic components can be washed in warm soapy water and reused.

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