

Lava Lamps

Activity Instructions

Mess-O-Meter



“Moderately messy”

Materials

- clear glass
- tap water
- vegetable oil or mineral oil
- food coloring
- Alka-Seltzer tablets
- flashlight (optional)
- magnifying glass (optional)

Procedure

1. Fill the clear glass 1/4 of the way with water.
2. Add several drops of food coloring.
3. Fill the rest of the glass up with oil.
4. Have an adult help break an Alka-Seltzer tablet into 4 equal sized pieces.
5. Drop one piece of the broken Alka-Seltzer tablet into the glass.
6. Make observations of what happens!
7. To dispose the liquids Pour it into a sealed container and throw it away, or dump it out outside. Don't dispose of the liquid down the drain, it can cause a clog!

Overview

Liquids are not all the same. Liquids like oil and water have different traits, one of their biggest differences is their density. Density is the amount of matter that makes up an object. And because water and oil don't mix, they create cool shapes when the water fizzes after an Alka-Seltzer tablet is added.

