

Make Your Own Volcano

You will need:

- Washing up liquid
- Vinegar
- Plastic cup
- Tin foil
- Baking soda
- Food colouring – red is best it looks more like lava
- A tray or a box (or you could do this outside because of the mess.)
- A plate to stand the cup on



Method:

1. Put your cup on top of the plate. (you can put some tape at the bottom to make sure it stays in place.)
2. Fill the cup just over half way with water, add 3 teaspoons of baking soda and give it a good stir until most of the baking soda dissolves.
3. Add a good squirt of washing up liquid and a little bit of food colouring into the cup and once again give it a stir.
4. Cover the cup and plate with tin foil. (this is where you can make it look a bit more like a volcano)
5. Make a small hole in the tin foil so that your eruption can take place when you add the last magic ingredient.
6. Quickly pour in about a quarter of a cup of vinegar through the hole in the top.
7. STAND BACK AND WATCH!!!!

The science behind it:

You just made a chemical reaction! By mixing the acid (vinegar) and the alkali (bicarbonate of soda), bubbles of carbon dioxide (CO₂) were released like in a pyroclastic flow. A pyroclastic flow moves very fast and is extremely dangerous, whilst lava flows move slowly and aren't much of a threat.