

DIET COKE & MENTOS

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MATERIALS

2, 1-liter bottles of Diet Coke/Pepsi
1 Roll of Mentos candies (8 pcs)
2 Index cards
2 popsicle sticks
Cutting Board
Table knife or hammer
Tape and piece of paper

DIRECTIONS

Roll a piece of paper around the candy and tape it closed. This is your launch tube. The Mentos should slide freely in this tube.

Place a bottle of diet soda in a clear outside space (it will be messy!).

Place an index card flat over the open bottle. Position your launch tube with 4 candies over the bottle opening (on top of the index card). Pull the card out, so the candies fall into the bottle and run away!

For the next bottle, cut or crush the Mentos before putting it into the launch tube. Note whether there's a difference in the reaction.

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Physical reactions can be as dramatic as chemical ones!

THOUGHTS

While this might seem like a chemical reaction, it's really just a physical reaction. The mentos help the CO₂ escape the solution. As more CO₂ is freed, it helps free other CO₂, causing a chain reaction.

STEM CREATES THE WORLD WE LIVE IN

Look around your room. Almost everything in it was designed and built by people in STEM careers. STEM activities are an important part of preparing your child for creative problem solving and a valuable career. STEM skills build confidence and awareness of a wider world.

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