

Science ideas to try at home

April 2020

Floating eggs



Equipment: 3 eggs, 3 clear beakers/glasses, water and salt.

Method:

1. Pour the same amount of water into each glass
2. Add 8 tbsp of salt into glass one and mix well
3. Add 4 tbsp of salt into the second glass and mix well
4. Add no salt to the third glass
5. Place an egg into each glass and see whether it floats.

Taking it further:

Can you make an egg float halfway up the glass? What is the salt doing to the density of the water? What if you substituted the salt for sugar, does it work in the same way?

Make a bouncy egg



Equipment: 1 egg, white vinegar & a jar.

Method:

1. Put the egg into the jar
2. Pour in enough white vinegar to completely cover the egg
3. Leave the egg for 24 hours (you will see bubbles form on the side of the egg and rising to the surface; this is a chemical inside the vinegar slowly dissolving a chemical inside the shell of the egg)
4. Take the egg out of the vinegar; carefully rub off any excess bits of shell
5. Try out your bouncy egg – how high can you bounce it before it breaks?

Taking it further: Do different types of vinegar work in the same way? What about different sizes of eggs?