



4-H Learn from Home Activity: Dancing Popcorn

Materials Needed:

- Large Jar
- 2 tbsp of baking soda
- 2 cups of water
- 1 cup of vinegar
- ¼ cup of popcorn kernels

Instructions:

1. Grab your ingredients and let's get started! You can use just about any tall glass or jar. An adult might want to assist with the measuring and pouring if necessary, but it's also great practice for junior scientists.

2. Fill the jar with 2 cups of water.

3. Add the popcorn kernels, then add 2 tablespoons of baking soda and stir well to mix thoroughly.

At this point, you have the perfect opportunity to talk about **predictions** and have your kids predict what they think will happen when the vinegar is added.

4. Add the vinegar slowly.

Reflective Questions: (Use these examples, or come up with others)

- What was your favorite part of this activity?
- What was the most challenging?
- Are there any advantages to the different designs?

Extensions of this activity:

- Change the materials, instead of water, use soda water. Use food coloring and change the color of your water.
- Have youth work independently or in teams.