

BLOW UP A



BALLOON PUMPKIN

You'll need

Water

Small bottle

Orange balloon

Black Sharpie

Effervescent vitamin tablet



Instructions

Blow up the balloon first and let the air out, draw a pumpkin face on the balloon.

Half fill your bottle with water.

Drop an effervescent vitamin tablet into the bottle and place the balloon on top.

Watch as the balloon blows up and the pumpkin grows.

Why does it work?

Effervescent vitamin tablets contain sodium bicarbonate (baking soda) and citric acid. When the tablet is placed in water it forms sodium citrate, water and carbon dioxide which is the bubbles of gas you see.

The carbon dioxide fills up the space in the bottle and then the balloon forcing it to expand.

Extension Task

Other things to try are popping candy or yeast and warm water.

Science Sparks™

Adult supervision required. You are responsible for your own safety.

www.sciencesparks.com

