



LAVA LAMP

You'll need

SPOOKY

A clear plastic or glass bottle or jar

A bottle of vegetable oil

Water

Alka seltzer

Food colouring



Instructions

Fill the bottle about a quarter full with water. Top up to near the top with vegetable oil.

The oil and water should separate into two layers, water at the bottom and oil on the top.

Once the oil and water have separated, add enough food colouring to get the colour you want. The colour will mix with the water at the bottom.

Drop half an alka seltzer tablet into the container and watch the bubbles.

Add more alka seltzer little by little to keep the bubbles rising and falling.

Why does it work?

Alka seltzer is made of citric acid and sodium bicarbonate. As the tablet dissolves the citric acid and sodium bicarbonate mix to form carbon dioxide gas and sodium citrate. It is the bubbles of carbon dioxide that carry the coloured water into the oil giving a lava lamp effect.