



Boogie Bubbles & the Raisin Rave!

“Hold onto your lab coats, junior scientists — these wrinkly little raisins are about to throw the fizziest, floatiest, bubble-blasting boogie bash this side of the fruit bowl!”

“Attention, curious scientists! I have here a glass of mysterious fizzy potion and a handful of wrinkly raisins. What will happen when the two meet? Will they plummet to the depths? Leap for joy? Or do something so bizarre that it makes your eyebrows dance? There’s only one way to find out — let’s experiment!”



“Before we start — what do YOU think will happen to the raisins? Will they sink like a stone, float like a boat, or dance like disco champions?”

What You Need

“In addition to 2 x plastic glasses (champagne flute or tall container) you will need the items in the picture.

Try It Another Way!

“Swap raisins for popcorn kernels, small pasta shells, or dried cranberries. Which ones dance best?”



NOTE: FREE sample: © The Crazy Scientist® Pty Ltd

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Step-by-Step:

1. Set the Stage

Place two clear cups or tall glasses on the table. Label one “Fizz Fest” (for soda water) and one “Still Water”.

2. Pour the Potions

Fill the “Fizz Fest” glass with soda water right to the top. Fill “Plain Jane” with the same amount of still water.



3. Make Your Predictions

Ask: What will the raisins do in each glass? Will they sink? Float? Dance like they just won a talent show? Write down or draw your predictions.

4. Drop the Raisins

Plop a few raisins into each glass one at a time. Watch closely — the action can start fast!

5. Observe the Dance Floor

Time how long it takes for the first raisin to rise in the fizzy drink. Compare what’s happening in the still water vs. the fizzy water. Which glass has the best dance moves?

6. Remix the Party

Try swapping raisins for popcorn kernels, small pasta shells, or dried cranberries. Does the size or shape change the dance style?

FREE Resource - example from upcoming experiment book for parents & teachers



Professor Picklebottom's Bubble Boogie Breakdown

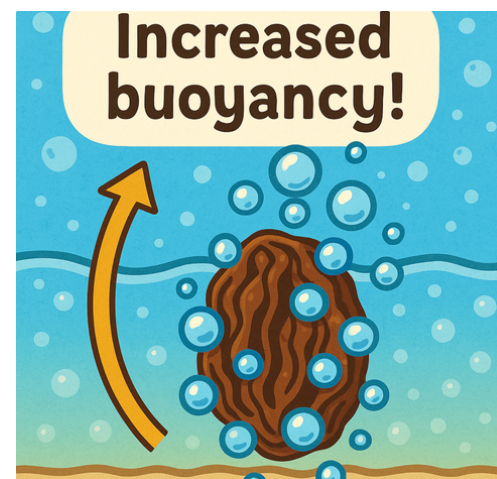
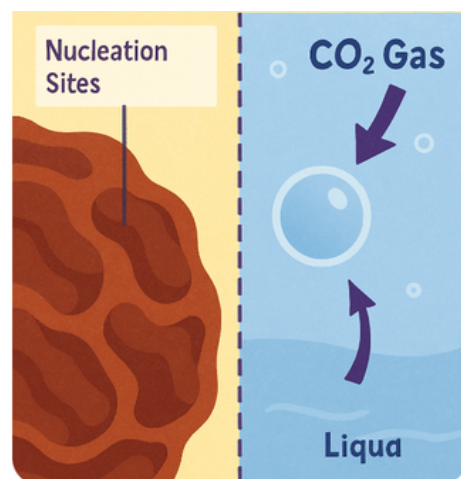
When soda water is made, carbon dioxide gas (CO_2) is squeezed into the liquid under high pressure. When you open the bottle — SHHHH! — some of that gas escapes right away, but plenty stays dissolved in the drink. The gas is itching to escape... but it needs somewhere to start.

That's where the raisin comes in! Its wrinkly, bumpy skin is covered in tiny pits and crevices. These are called nucleation sites — perfect little sites where the dissolved CO_2 can turn into bubbles. You can even see the same thing on the sides of a glass where small imperfections or scratches make bubbles appear.

Once bubbles form on the raisin, they act like dozens of life jackets, making the raisin more buoyant, causing it to move upwards to the surface.

But wait — there's more bubble magic! Those same bumps can also grab CO_2 bubbles already floating in the soda. As bubbles bump into the raisin, they stick to the rough skin, giving it an extra lift. When the bubbles reach the surface — POP! — the gas escapes, and it sinks back down.

Then... the dance starts all over again, until the soda goes flat and the party's over!



Take it Further with Exclusive Parent & Teacher Resources

““Today's experiment was all about a physical change — the balloon went into the bottle because of changing air pressure, but the balloon itself stayed the same.

Next-Level Science: On Patreon, I'll show you how to make it a chemical change too!

You'll get:

- Safe chemical reaction versions of this trick.
- Hypothesis, variables & more.
- Teacher notes comparing physical vs chemical changes.



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Investigate different liquids to see which makes the sultanas dance best. Try soda water, lemonade, sparkling mineral water, and cola. Record which one produces the most dancing and longest activity.

Research and compare how different drink bottling methods trap gas. Use a camera or phone to take time-lapse footage of the sultanas dancing, then analyse the video to see bubble patterns and timing.

Design and build a “Dance Arena” — a custom container (clear plastic tube, tall vase, or stacked bottles) that makes the sultanas bounce higher or longer. Experiment with different shapes, heights, and widths.

Create a comic strip or short stop-motion animation starring your sultanas. Give them names, facial expressions, and dialogue as they dance, collide, and fall back to the bottom.

Count the number of bounces each sultana makes in one minute. Make a bar graph or line graph comparing different sultanas or different liquids. Calculate averages and find out which liquid gives the highest bounce count.

Don't miss the next crazy experiment! Join our free science club newsletter for parents & teachers