

JR-SCIENTISTS

SALT WATER VOLCANO

This simple experiment teaches kids about density and is fun too!

INSTRUCTIONS:

STEP 1: Pour water into the jar. If using food coloring, add it now.

STEP 2: Pour in 1/4 cup of vegetable oil.

STEP 3: Sprinkle salt into the jar.

SUPPLIES

Bottle or jar
Water
Vegetable oil
Salt
Food coloring
(optional)

THE SCIENCE

Water and oil do not mix. Oil is less dense than water, which is why it floats on the surface, and why the escaped oil from the salt desperately wants to reach the top again. Salt is denser than water which is why it must sink to the bottom.

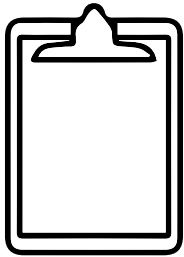
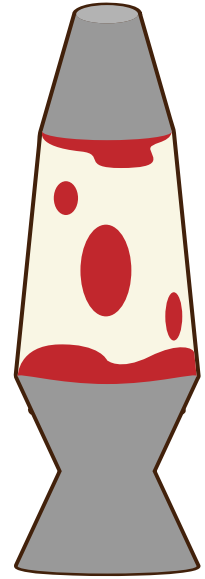
When the salt falls, it carries a blob of oil with it. When the salt begins to dissolve in the water, it releases the oil which floats back up to the top.

Play around with more colors, or adding them before the oil vs. after.



Salt Water Volcano Observations

Use this worksheet to process and evaluate your work.



RECORD

Why does oil, water, and salt make a reaction like a lava lamp?

Does the oil pour differently than the water?

What do you notice about the food coloring drops you added?

What did you learn?
