

Snowstorm in a Jar



Supplies:

- Water (about 1 cup)
- Baby oil
- Glitter
- Alka-Seltzer
- White paint
- Blue food coloring (optional)
- Clear plastic cup
- Plastic spoon
- Bowl

Directions:

1. Fill your cup about 3/4 full with baby oil.
2. In a separate bowl, blend water and a few tablespoons of white paint.
3. Add as much glitter and blue food coloring to the oil as you'd like.
4. Then, top off the cup with your water and paint mixture.
5. Drop your Alka-Seltzer tablet into the cup, and take a step back.

The Science Behind The Experiment!

- The water-white paint mixture sinks to the bottom because it is more dense than the baby oil.
- The food coloring droplets do not dissolve in oil, but they do dissolve into water.
- When the Alka-Seltzer tablet gets dropped in, what happens?
 - Well, the Alka-Seltzer and oil do not combine. The tablet sinks through the oil until it reaches the layer of colored water. There, the Alka-Seltzer dissolves in the water and forms a gas called carbon dioxide.
 - Raise your hand if you've ever heard of carbon dioxide. It is the gas that gets released when we breathe out and exhale.
 - When the Alka-Seltzer reacts and release carbon dioxide, that is what creates the bubbles that carry the colored water to the top of the oil where they pop and the water then falls back down since it is more dense than water. This creates a "snowstorm" effect!