



GAS BALLOON

An acid and a base make gas.

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

- A plastic pop bottle
- White vinegar
- Baking soda
- Paper towel (if your brand is the super-duper absorbent kind, try a few layers of toilet tissue instead.)
- Balloon



WHAT DO YOU DO?

1. Fill your bottle half full of white vinegar.
2. Put about 1 tablespoon of baking soda into a paper towel and wrap it up to make a tightly wrapped packet.
3. Poke the baking soda packet into the bottle so that it falls into the vinegar.
4. Quickly put the balloon over the mouth of the bottle and set the bottle on the counter.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

When vinegar comes into contact with baking soda, the reaction produces a gas called *carbon dioxide*. The gas has fast-moving molecules that take up a lot of space and expand – blowing up the balloon.

Source: Brunelle, Lynn. Pop Bottle Science. New York: Workman Publishing Company, Inc., 2004.

