

October Experiment: Bouncy Egg!

To support children's scientific learning outside of school, each month I'll be sharing a fun, hands-on experiment that families can try at home. October's experiment is a squishy surprise — we're turning a regular egg into a bouncy egg using just vinegar!

This simple experiment uses everyday materials and is a great way to explore chemical reactions and physical changes.

What You Need:

1 raw egg

White vinegar

A container (big enough to fully submerge the egg)



What To Do:

1. Carefully place your raw egg into the container.
2. Pour in enough white vinegar to fully cover the egg.
3. Leave the egg to soak for 2–3 days. You'll notice bubbles forming on the shell!
4. After 2 days, gently rinse the egg under water. Carefully rub the shell — it should begin to come off.
5. If bits of shell remain, return the egg to fresh vinegar for one more day and then rinse again.
6. Once all the shell is gone, try gently bouncing the egg from a low height. Watch it spring back!

What's Going On?

This experiment demonstrates a chemical reaction between an acid and calcium.

The eggshell is made of calcium carbonate. Vinegar is an acid (acetic acid).

When they mix, the acid breaks down the shell, producing carbon dioxide bubbles (that's what you see fizzing on the egg!). What's left is the egg's inner membrane, which is soft, see-through, and surprisingly bouncy!

Try Taking It Further:

Investigate: How high can the egg bounce before it breaks? Try it on different surfaces (grass, carpet, concrete — with caution!)

What happens if you use brown vinegar or lemon juice instead of white vinegar?

Leave the egg in vinegar longer — does it bounce more or less?

Try placing the egg in coloured water after removing the shell — what happens?

If you have any questions or would like to share a photo of your bouncy egg experiment, I'd love to see it!

Email me at: newzealand@lainesmeadprimary.co.uk

Happy experimenting!

Mrs Smith