



Project Exploration creates transformative learning opportunities for youth underrepresented in the sciences –particularly students of color and girls – by equipping them with the skills, practices, and mindset needed for a lifelong pursuit of learning. STEM@Home makes activities around science, technology, engineering, and math accessible and fun to do at home. This STEMbook activity, resources, and more are available at www.projectexploration.org/stemathome.

In this activity, you will:

learn how baking soda neutralizes odor!



Supplies Required:

Container of Baking Soda
Pen and paper
Tea bag/coffee filter (optional)

Video

What is the pH scale? <https://tinyurl.com/kgzf3a>

How to remove odors using baking soda: <https://tinyurl.com/y9cw88g8>

Overview

pH is a measure of how acidic or alkaline/basic something is. It has a scale of 1 to 14. Water has a pH of 7 because it is neutral! Most smelly things are acidic, which means it has a pH less than 7. We can use baking soda to neutralize smelly odors because it is an alkali/base, which means it has a pH greater than 7, and smelly gasses will attach to it.



Instructions

1. Find something stinky in your house! Could be your fridge, a bin of shoes, or something else.
2. Write down what it smells like. Be specific!
3. Place the open container of baking soda inside of your stinky stuff. If you want to place baking soda in shoes, make sure not to spill it all over the place by placing it in a tea bag or coffee filter first!
4. Come back in 24 hours. Does it smell better or worse? Write down the date and time, as well as more observations about the smell.
5. Keep observing the smells every 24 hours for a week. The stinky smell should start to disappear!

Additional Resources

1. More about baking soda! <https://tinyurl.com/yce3wdlu>

Share It Out

Share on social media: What other stinky places in your house can you de-stink with baking soda? Let your friends and family know! Create a tutorial to share on social media using the hashtags:

#BakingSodaStink
#ProjectExploration
#StemAtHome

Share via PE's website: Students who complete STEM@home activities and share what they learned with the PE team via our website will earn points which can be traded in for cash prizes at the Explore Store. Your project number is 216. Learn more at www.projectexploration.org/explore-store

Join PE's character contest!

Design a STEM character who will lead kids through activities and be featured on our website and in our STEMbooks. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top 3 finalists. Learn more at:
www.projectexploration.org/character-contest.



Call or text us for help: 312-772-6634

www.projectexploration.org