

Science Week 5: Clever Chemistry

Our activities this week will involve you becoming a kitchen chemist! You can make and erupt your own volcano, use chemistry to inflate a balloon (or funnier yet, a disposable glove) and even use red cabbage to set up a chemistry lab in your kitchen! You can work together as a family on all of these activities.

1. Make and Erupt a Volcano

If you click [here](#) you will be taken to the Natural History Museum's website, where you will find instructions on how to make an erupting model of a volcano using simple household ingredients, along with some interesting information about volcanoes. Instead of using card to make the conical volcano shape, you can also add rings of scrunched newspaper around the bottle, held in place with tape, which are then layered over with newspaper strips which have been soaked in a PVA glue/water mix. I have also seen this done with a bottle pushed into wet play sand, which has been built up around the bottle.

2. Inflate a balloon (or a disposable glove)

If you click [here](#) you will find instructions for how to inflate a balloon using simple chemicals. If you have some thin disposable gloves, I recommend trying this using them too as the effect is very amusing! You will need to add the bicarbonate of soda to each finger.

3. Clever chemistry with cabbage

You can turn your kitchen into a chemistry lab and make your own acid-base indicator using red cabbage! An acid-base indicator is a substance that can be used to measure the level of acidity or alkalinity of another substance (for example of some of the ingredients you would find in your kitchen). It works by changing colour, so you can tell how acidic something is. If you click [here](#) you will find instructions for how to become a kitchen chemist!

I hope you enjoy these activities and please remember to keep sharing your learning with me!

