

## EXPERIMENT 20: Dancing Raisins

Challenge: Observe the effect of gassy liquids on irregularly shaped solids



### WHAT YOU NEED:

- A glass or plastic bottle
- Carbonated soda water (seltzer or club soda)
- 3-4 raisins



### STEP-BY-STEP:

1. Fill bottle about half way with soda water.



2. Drop three or four raisins into the soda water.



3. Wait to see what happens while the soda water is bubbly.

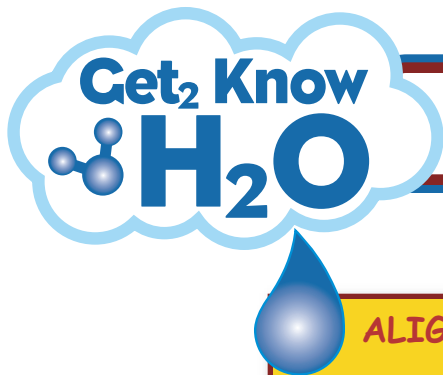


4. Leave the bottle open overnight and observe the rise and fall of the raisins. Be sure to observe what happens when the water has lost most of its bubbles.

### QUESTIONS:



- How long does it take for each raisin to rise?
- How long does it bob on the surface?
- How long before it rises again?
- Record what happens when you observe the raisins one day later.



# EXPERIMENT 20: Dancing Raisins

## Instructor's Guide

### ALIGNMENT WITH ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION GOALS

**State Goal 11:**

Section A: 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d  
2e and 2f

**State Goal 12:**

Section C: 2b  
Section C: 2b

**State Goal 13:**

Section A: 2b



### WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Soda water contains dissolved carbon dioxide gas that collects on the irregular surfaces of the raisins. Once enough bubbles have collected, the raisins will actually be lifted to the surface where the gas will be released into the air, causing the raisins to sink once again.

### WHAT COULD GO WRONG?

If the soda is flat, the reaction will slow down or stop.

### LINKS

[www.members.ozemail.com.au/~macinnis/scifun/miniexp.htm#16](http://www.members.ozemail.com.au/~macinnis/scifun/miniexp.htm#16)

### CREDITS

© Peter Macinnis—[macinnis@ozemail.com.au](mailto:macinnis@ozemail.com.au)

### WHAT ELSE CAN KIDS LEARN?

#### Raisin Reasoning

Raisins are dried and shriveled up grapes which explains their wrinkly skin. Ask the students what would happen if they tried this experiment with a small blueberry. Ask if it would still rise and fall. Ask why or why not.

#### Bubbles are more than fun, they're science labs:

[www.members.ozemail.com.au/~macinnis/scifun/bubbles.htm](http://www.members.ozemail.com.au/~macinnis/scifun/bubbles.htm)

### YOUR FEEDBACK

Were the instructions clear? Did the class stay interested? Email us at [feedback@Get2KnowH2O.org](mailto:feedback@Get2KnowH2O.org) and let us know what you think. We would like to share your suggestions with other teachers and give you credit for your great ideas!