My Five Senses Scavenger Hunt

Something smooth	Something rough	Something that makes a noise
Something round	Something yellow	Something that came from a plant
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Something that has a smell	Something long	Something man-made
Something soft	Something that I could eat	Something red



Fireworks in a Glass

Oil

- Warm Water You Will Need
 - Oil*
 - A Tall Glass
 - Food Colouring

Please dispose of oil safely and responsibly.

Red

This is a very cool, simple and fun experiment, and also completely safe, just don't drink the water!

Method

- Fill the tall glass with warm water. 1
- Pour a small amount of oil into another container and add a few drops 2 of food colouring.
- Give it a good stir, if it doesn't mix, add a bit of water. 3
- Pour the food colouring and oil mixture into the warm water and watch 4 the fireworks!

Oil and water don't mix. Also oil is less dense than water (meaning there is less of it in the same volume) and therefore floats on top of water in a nice layer. The food colouring we used was water based and therefore does not mix with the oil, instead it sinks through the oil into the water below. Since the addition of the colouring makes the food colouring heavier than the water, it sinks to the bottom leaving trails (resembling fireworks) as some of the colour diffuses into the water.



The Science Bit



Fun with Density





* Please dispose of oil safely and responsibly.

Density is a really tough concept to grasp. We confuse ourselves by referring to our weight all the time when we really mean our **mass**. **Mass** is effectively 'how much stuff' is there. **Density** is how much mass is in a volume (or space).

One way to illustrate density is to pour different liquids (which have different densities) on top of each other. The liquids with the greatest density sink to the bottom.

Method

- **1** Measure out the same volume of each of the liquids. Colour the water and the milk if you wish.
- 2 Starting from the bottom, pour in the honey. Make sure it goes into the middle of the glass and that you don't get any honey on the sides.
- **3** Slowly pour the golden syrup on top, followed by the washing up liquid.
- 4 Then add the milk, followed by the water.
- **5** Finally top with vegetable oil and admire your rainbow glass!

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Each of the liquids have a different mass of molecules or different numbers of parts squashed into the same volume of liquid, this makes them have different densities and therefore one can sit on top of the other – the more dense a liquid is the heavier it is. Do you think you could float small objects on each of the different levels? We'd love to see a photo if you can.









• Water
• Vegetable Oil*
• A Clear Plastic Bottle or Jar
• Food Colouring
• Effervescent Tablets

Please dispose of oil safely and responsibly.

Method

- **1** Fill the bottle or jar a quarter full with water.
- **2** Top up, almost to the top with the vegetable oil
- **3** They should separate into two layers, water at the bottom and oil sitting on top.
- 4 Add about 6-8 drops of food colouring once the oil and water separate.
- 5 The colour will mix with the water at the bottom.
- 6 Pop in half an effervescent tablets and watch the bubbles form. Add more effervescent tablets bit by bit to keep the bubbles rising and falling.

Firstly water and oil will not mix – this is because we say that water is a polar molecule – its structure means that is has a positive charge one end and a negative charge the other. Water molecules stick together because the positive end of one water molecule is attracted to the negative end of another. Oil molecule structure is different – it is non polar, meaning that its charge is more evenly spread out, so the oil is not attracted to water – in fact we call it hydrophobic (water fearing) so it tries to get as far away from water as possible and will not mix. The reason that oil rests on top of the water rather than underneath is because it has a different density to water.

As the effervescent tablets is added (this is made of citric acid and sodium bicarbonate) it reacts with the water and form carbon dioxide gas and sodium citrate. It is the carbon dioxide bubbles that carry the coloured water to the top.



The Science Bit

