## 50 Science Experiments to try at Home

- 1. Learn about the crystallization process by growing rock sweets in a glass.
- 2. Place white flowers in coloured water and watch how they soak up the hues.
- 3. Build a container for an egg that protects it from breaking and then test it out by dropping it from on high.
- 4. Make homemade ice cream in a bag: shake salt, ice, cream and sugar vigorously until the consistency is right, then enjoy.
- 5. Drop Popping candy into a bottle of soda and then place a balloon onto the opening to watch it inflate.
- 6. Whip up some Oobleck, a fascinating non-Newtonian fluid that can act like a solid or a liquid depending on certain conditions.
- 7. Mix baking soda, vinegar and glitter for a sparkly volcano.
- 8. Microwave any soap that floats to create a bizarre puffy soufflé.
- 9. Grow a bean in a clear cup to watch the roots grow down and the stem grow up.
- 10. Blow bubbles outside when it's below 0 degrees and watch them freeze (you can also try it in your freezer but it's tougher).
- 11. Use lemon juice to make invisible ink that can only be seen when held up to a heat source.
- 12. Fold a paper aeroplane and then bend a corner to see how that changes its flight path.
- 13. Set up a row of bottles with varying amounts of liquid and then blow across the openings to hear the different tones.
- 14. Learn about surface tension by dropping food colouring into milk and watch as the colours move when you add some soap.
- 15. Create a tornado in a bottle by taping two plastic bottles together neck to neck—one filled, the other empty—and swirling it quickly.
- 16. Build a marshmallow catapult out of a plastic spoon, rubber bands and lollypop sticks.
- 17. Mix Coke and Mentos and stand back to watch the explosion.
- 18. Make your own butter by shaking a jar of heavy cream.
- 19. Force an egg to fit into a bottle by creating a suction using heat.
- 20. Change how an egg floats or sinks in a glass by adding salt to the water.
- 21. Plop oil into water to see that they really don't mix; try it with a variety of liquids to make a rainbow of stripes.
- 22. Grow mould on bread by putting slices in different environments (in a bag in the dark, in a bag in the sunlight, out in the open, in the refrigerator); see which one gets mouldy first.
- 23. Demonstrate centripetal force by spinning a bucket of water on a rope in a vertical circle.
- 24. Make "elephant toothpaste" (a.k.a. an impressive large foam) out of soap, yeast and hydrogen peroxide.
- 25. Fill a plastic bottle to the brim with water and put it in the freezer; in a few hours the bottle will crack because ice expands.
- 26. Use a plastic bag and cup to build a parachute for a light toy.

- 27. Ask your kids to do simple tasks with their hands, feet and eyes (like grab a ball, stand on one foot or wink) to see which side is dominant.
- 28. Make static electricity by rubbing balloons on clothing or shuffling on the carpet with socks, then zap someone with a quick touch.
- 29. Have your kids close their eyes and hold their nose and see if they can still identify foods by taste.
- 30. Bounce a ball on top of another to watch how the energy transfers to the top ball and leaves the bottom one "dead".
- 31. Use a balloon to amplify sound by holding it to your ear.
- 32. Borax plus glue equals homemade crazy putty.
- 33. Use food colouring and water to see how combining primary colours makes secondary colours.
- 34. Explore the fat content of different foods by wiping them on a brown paper bag—fatty foods leave behind a greasy spot, while fruits and vegetables leave no trace at all.
- 35. Mix a batch of bread dough and separate it into several different bowls; place them in different places (outside, inside, in the dark, in the light) to see which environment yeast thrives in.
- 36. Turn milk into a material that acts like plastic using white vinegar.
- 37. Polish pennies with lemon juice or coke—a quick soak in the acid leaves them shiny.
- 38. Make a Rube Goldberg machine featuring a series of moving pieces that affect one another. Marbles, dominoes, books and most any surface.
- 39. Build your own periscope using a milk carton and carefully angled mirrors that allow you to see things above or behind you.
- 40. Test your reaction time by having a friend drop a ruler between two almost closed fingers, and see how fast you can grab it.
- 41. Map your taste buds by dipping cotton buds into different flavors and placing them on different areas of your tongue.
- 42. Find your blind spot by moving a card with a speck on it until you can no longer see the spot.
- 43. Build a miniature windmill using a few simple objects, and watch it spin faster or slower based on the direction of the "blades".
- 44. Make a sundial by placing a stick in a vertical position and a circle of rocks around it marking each hour.
- 45. Cut ice in half using a piece of string or wire—the pressure melts the ice faster than the air.
- 46. Make a rainbow by holding a glass of water up to the sunlight with a sheet of paper behind it to catch the colours.
- 47. Build a rocket balloon car using a Styrofoam tray, a balloon and a straw; watch how air pressure moves it across the table.
- 48. Make a lava lamp by pouring vegetable oil into water, then sprinkling salt on it to make the blob of oil move.
- 49. Craft a duck call by cutting the ends of a straw into a point, then blowing.
- 50. Fashion your own ball with this recipe and see how various shapes bounce differently.