

THE FLOATING TEABAG

Materials : a teabag, ice-cream container lid and a box of matches.

Characters:

Narrator 1 : morning radio breakfast announcer. Everything he says is completely over the top.

Narrator 2 : calm soothing voice of a radio announcer from an easy listening radio station (constantly annoyed by Narrator 1)

Eura Snotball : quiet silent type

Script:

Narrator 1 : Welcome one and all to another exciting science demonstration.

Narrator 2 : But before we begin, we'd like to introduce you to our wonderful assistant...

Narrator 1 & Narrator 2 : Eura Snotball

Assistant : (take a bow)

Narrator 1 : As we progress through this activity our wonderful assistant, Eura, will demonstrate each step for you.

Narrator 1 : The first thing you need to do for this activity is to take a teabag and pull the staple out.

(Eura Snotball presents all materials to the audience with exaggerated hand movements like a gameshow model.)

Narrator 2 : Be careful when you do this step as a staple under your

fingernail can be quite painful.

Assistant : (pretends to get a staple under her fingernail)

Narrator 1 : Next, tip the contents of the teabag into a bin.

Narrator 2 : After that, straighten the teabag out into the shape of a cylinder.

Narrator 1 : Then stand the cylinder on an ice-cream lid to prevent scorching the surface of a table.

Narrator 2 : Make sure there is no wind around to blow the cylinder over.



Narrator 2 : Now what do you think will happen if Eura takes a match and lights the top of the tea bag?

Narrator 1: So take a moment to explain what you think to your partner.

(allow students a bit of think time)

Narrator 1 : (*Insert name*) what is your guess?

Student : *Give them time to answer.*

Narrator 1: That's a good guess.

Narrator 2 : (*Insert name*) what is your prediction?

Student : *Give them time to answer.*

Narrator 1 : That's a great prediction.

Narrator 1 : OK! Let's give it a go.

All: (in a serious voice) **Please *don't* try this at home without responsible adult supervision.**

Assistant : (Light the teabag carefully then shake the match out well away from tea bag so the experiment doesn't fall over)



All : **WOW!**

Narrator 1 : Why do you think that happened given that we know, 'Hot air rises'

Narrator 2 : Talk with a friend for just a moment to try and work out the answer.

(wait, wait, wait)

Narrator 1 : (*Insert name*) what is your guess?

Narrator 1: That's a good guess.

Narrator 2 : (*Insert name*) what is your hypothesis?

Narrator 1 : Now we would like you to draw this experiment in your notebook so you can show it to your parents what we did today when you get home.

Possible Extension Activities

- ◆ Light three teabags at the same time to test for reliability. Do you think the bags will all behave the same way
- ◆ Write your explanation of what you think is happening.

For more science resources check out :

- http://www.adrianbruce.com/science/science_experiments.htm

& <http://www.captaincuriosity.net/>

If you have some comments for us please email them to

hey_ad@yahoo.com