



The Coca-Cola and Mentos Eruption



Things you will need:

- Bottle of diet coke
- Pack of Mentos

Instructions:

You'll probably want to take this experiment outside as it can get pretty messy! Place the diet coke bottle on the floor with the lid off. Then, using a funnel, drop about half a pack of Mentos into the bottle. Then run out of the way and watch the eruption!

The science behind it:

Coke, as with all fizzy drinks, is full of carbon dioxide which is what gives it its fizzy bubbles. All these bubbles are trapped in the bottle until it is opened. If an object is dropped into the soda then bubbles will gather on the surface. This is called nucleation. Mentos are very bumpy so have lots and lots of places for the bubbles to gather. So when you drop in the Mentos their surface acts as a nucleation site allowing lots of carbon dioxide bubbles to form very very quickly which then causes the eruption.