Family Science Time

Exploding Polyjuice Potion a.k.a. Elephant Toothpaste

You will need:

Basilisk Venom	(2 tablespoons warm water)
A pinch of Unicorn Horn Powder	(1 teaspoon yeast)
Dream Fluid	(½ cup 6% hydrogen peroxide 20 Volume Clear Developer from Sally Beauty Supply
Polyjuice Potion	(4-5 drops of green food coloring)
A dash of Wolfsbane	(a squirt of dish soap)
An empty bottle	
a pan or tray	

What to do:

Put your bottle on a pan or tray. Add hydrogen peroxide, food coloring and soap to bottle. In a separate container mix yeast and water and swirl together for about a minute. Once blended, pour yeast mixture into your bottle.

What's going on?

This experiment is a great way to demonstrate a chemical reaction. Hydrogen peroxide naturally breaks down into water and oxygen. It is stored in darker containers to help slow down this process. Catalase (an enzyme in all living things, including yeast) speeds up the reaction. Dish soap catches the oxygen and makes bigger bubbles and the food coloring just makes it look cooler. The foam and bottle feel warm because the reaction is releases heat as energy (exothermic). This reaction is also a chemical change.

Locomotion Charm

You will need:

An empty soda can, a balloon and a head of hair

What to do:

Place the empty soda can on its side on a flat table. Rub the balloon in the hair back and forth quickly. Hold the balloon close to the can without actually touching the can. The can will start to roll towards the balloon without you even touching it.

What is going on?

When you rub the balloon through your hair, invisible electrons (with a negative charge) build up on the surface of the balloon. This is called static electricity, which means "non-moving electricity". The electrons have the power to pull very light objects (with a positive charge) toward them – like the soda can.