Cool Chemistry Concoctions: 50 Formulas That Fizz, Foam, Splatter & Ooze
Synopsis

The start to a brand-new children’s series puts the fun back in science with a little fizz, foam, and chemistry magic. It’s a sure-fire formula for selling success. What could be more entertaining than grossing out parents with a homemade batch of disgusting runny slime? Or making miniature cave stalactites and stalagmites out of saturated salt solutions and string? These 50 irresistible experiments, explained in terms that children will both understand and appreciate, show just how enjoyable science can be—and that’s definitely cool. Even the look of the book has real appeal. All the activities appear on colorful illustrated spreads with an engaging cast of kid characters who show how the science fun is done. Most of the experiments use ordinary household materials, and they provide some delightful visual and tactile effects. See what happens when cola and mint come together. (Hint: take cover!) Watch a rubber balloon inflate itself over a bottle. Bounce a raw egg—with no breakage. Every idea is a winner.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews
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Age Range: 8 and up
Grade Level: 3 - 12

Customer Reviews

Grade 3-6â€”This lively book offers an engaging introduction to science experiments. The projects, many of them classics, are simple and require household materials, although one item, a 35mm film canister, may be difficult to acquire. The zany cartoon illustrations are the perfect accompaniment to the text, which is fun and informative. Readers are reminded that some activities require adult help, and they are encouraged to copy and tack up nearby the two pages of lab rules
that are included. Each project begins with What You Need, followed by What You Do and Why It Works. Explanations are clear and concise. The glossary is comprehensive, and the words are italicized in the text. A metric conversion chart is included. While the projects would not be appropriate for a science fair, they tell how to make slime, volcanoes, stalactites, water bombs, and shrunken heads (using apples and Epsom salts) and are sure to interest kids. Maren Ostergard, Bellevue Regional Library, WA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

It is a perfect book to bring out on a rainy day or even outside on a sunny one. VOYA --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I own several books on science fun for kids. I consider this one of the better ones for ages 9-14. Although there are some ideas carried through several pages, almost every activity stands on its own. Each concoction is presented on its own page with a catchy title like "Soda Slobber" and sections headed "What You Need," "What You Do," and "Why It Works." I liked the scientific explanations--very clear and readable. There are also several one-page articles like "What Makes Your Pop POP" that go into more detailed explanations of the chemistry behind the concoctions. The concoctions mostly consist of experiments with acid/base reactions, air pressure, liquid densities, Ph indicators, and carbonation, plus recipes for polymers, crystals, paint and invisible ink. The text stands on its own; the kid-friendly illustrations are merely decorative. Some recipes do require ingredients that are not readily available every house, such as citric acid or tincture of iodine, but the book mentions in general terms whether they can be purchased in a drugstore or grocery store. A lot of the experiments involve things that splash or are otherwise very messy, but the reader is cautioned to do them outside. I am looking forward to using the geyser made from soda pop and lifesavers with my day camp geology classes--I expect it to be a highlight of the class. And although many of the activities can be found in other books (is there a kids' chemistry book anywhere that does NOT tell how to make slime, create a baking soda volcano, or separate the colors that make up black ink?), the geyser, the Air Freshener Bubbles (made with vanilla extract), and Tie Be Gone (where you dissolve a piece of old clothing) are three activities that I do not recall seeing in other books.

Younger tweens and older kids (maybe 8-13 or so) had a blast with this - For the most part, everything you need for all these experiments are already in your kitchen or elsewhere in your
house, so you don't need to go out to try and find obscure random ingredients that you'll never use again. The rest of the items can be found at your friendly local megamart or pharmacy. It's so much better than a chemistry kit, where once you use up the provided chemicals, you're done. This book gives you the principles and the recipes - the what and the why. And, yes, some of the things are messy - but that's why kids like it so much. What better way to learn science than to have fun doing it? Yes, some adult supervision is recommended / required, but honestly, you won't mind - because you'll have fun too (as long as you don't mind occasionally temporarily making a mess). Highly recommended.

We have done a few of the activities and have enjoyed them. We were excited to see that most of the ingredients used are things we have at home. We have tried many different books and science kits and have been disappointed to find that the materials were hard to find or expensive. I love the way it is written. Fun to read and includes a "Why it Works" section for each to explain the chemistry involved. My daughter is using this book and it 6 years old. We do the activities together and this is exactly what we were looking for. I am sure that older children will enjoy as well.

I checked this book out of the library when I needed ideas for experiments to use with elementary age students in a summer enrichment course in chemistry. I liked the book so much that I ordered my own copy. I used a number of the experiments from the book. The experiments are clearly explained and are easy to duplicate using simple chemicals you can buy at the grocery store (and probably already have in your home). The pictures and writing style are light-hearted, which makes this book a fun read.

We continuously use this book over and over again. It is great for summer projects to keep the kids busy and we all have a blast with the experiments. The kids even use the book for the class science experiments and they are hits with their classes! Thank you!

On page 28 of this book, a project calls for adding ammonia to "liquid fabric whitener."I am very concerned that this is not a specific enough designation for some shoppers, and they might end up using bleach product containing chlorine instead of the old-fashioned bluing that is presumably intended. There are far too many products with "whitens" as one of the claims on the label. Many contain chlorine. Mixing chlorine and ammonia releases a deadly gas. Anyone seeing a copy of this book in a store, library, school, or private possession should make sure that page 28 has a note
added to clearly state that ***No bleach or other chlorine containing product should be used in this experiment - that is not what 'fabric whitener' means - chlorine plus ammonia can KILL*** Aside from that, tho book looks nice. With the proper cautions, it may be a five star book.

My 10 year old loves this book. Aside from the one problem mentioned on page 28 I have yet to see any other problems with this book. My daughter is a Do It Yourself Scientist and she has completely loved this book. Most of the 'ingredients' are those easily found at home or in a grocery store. Most of the directions are very clear and easy to follow. Most of the experiments we have tried have turned out really well. Well worth the money. Enjoy.

Science Explanations Are Easy for All to Understand; Detailed Instructions; Easy to Find Supplies; An Opportunity to Share Science With A Child!

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