

Fizzy Sidewalk Paint

Collect:

- Baking soda
- Cornstarch
- Water
- Mixing bowl
- Food dye
- Jar or cup per color of food dye
- Paint brushes
- White distilled vinegar
- Spray bottle



Mix it

1. Add one cup of water, two cups of baking soda, and one cup of cornstarch to a mixing bowl.
2. Stir to thoroughly combine the ingredients—you're looking for a soupy mixture, almost like a runny pancake batter.

Make it colorful

1. Pour an equal amount of the paint base to each of the jars or cups you collected.
2. Squirt four drops of food dye into each jar.
3. Grab a spoon and mix to combine the food dye with the paint base.

Tip: If the color looks too pastel, add another drop or two of food dye. You could also separate your colors out into additional jars to experiment with blending colors to create a wider palette of color options.

Paint

1. Head outdoors to the sidewalk and get creative!

Tip: If the paint starts to separate, give it a mix with the spoon or paintbrush. This will help suspend the solids in the liquid once again.

It's chemistry time!

1. Once you've had time to step back and admire your painted masterpiece, it's time to get fizzy! Fill the spray bottle with vinegar and generously spray your artwork. What do you notice?

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What happened?

A bubbly chemical reaction occurs when baking soda and vinegar encounter one another. Baking soda is a base with a low level pH. Vinegar is an acid with a high level of pH. When the two meet, they quickly combine to create a new substance—carbon dioxide. This gas is what fills all the tiny bubbles in this classic acid/base reaction experiment.

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