

Biofuels Facilitator Outline

Materials:

Empty 20oz water bottle (4 per team) 9" latex balloons tape measure light colored corn syrup

Sugar packets (8 per team) scissors small plastic funnel (3) markers

Warm tap water string yeast (bulk, Costco) masking tape

Ground up leaves or bran flakes (from bulk foods in grocery store)

Do	Say	Materials	Time
Welcome & Introduction	"Who has ever heard of biofuels?"	biofuels	5 min
	Explain what a biofuel is (definition on page 7 of the leader guide) "Today we are going to make two different biofuels and see how they work."		
Part 1: Yeast Biofuel Older children can work in their group to mix their own biofuel. Younger children will need help from a volunteer leader and may watch the	"Each team is a science lab whose job is to create a biofuel."	Experiment instructions, 1 per group Bottle Yeast	10-15 min

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process.		Sugar	
	"	Balloon	
Mix the ingredients and		Measuring spoon	
using the funnel, pour the		Funnel	
mixture into a bottle. Place		water	
the balloon on the bottle			
and write the name of the			
team on the bottle with a			
sharpie.			
Set the bottle aside and let			
the biofuel do its job.			
and broader do no job.			
Note: for K-2, you may now			30 min
hand out the activity sheet,			
pencils and crayons.			
ponone and erayoner			
Let the students draw what			
they see, and help them fill			
in the blanks.			
After this activity, measure			
the balloons of each group			
and let the students write			
down the measurement of			
the their groups' balloon.			
Part 2: Making Ethanol	Explain that ethanol is a	3 bottles per group	15 min
	biofuel made from corn	Corn syrup	
Do this experiment, if time	products.	Dried leaves	
permits, with grades 3 & 4.	·	Yeast	
	"Ethanol can be mixed with	Water	
It would be best to combine	gasoline to power engines."	Teaspoon	
groups and to have fewer		balloons	
groups with more students.	"Now we will create a biofuel		

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	that is similar to ethanol, using organic material and a corn product." Guide the students through making the three bottles. One is a negative control and nothing will be added. One bottle will have the corn syrup and one the dried	
	leaves.	
	Observe, measure the balloons, compare and discuss.	
After the experiment is assembled, hand out the crossword puzzle.		
Conclusion	Review the answers to the crossword puzzle if there is time.	5 min