Exploding Baggies

Overview and Objective

We are going to be combining baking soda with vinegar inside of a sealed plastic bag. The mixture will create CO_2 which causes the bag to expand and increase in pressure. What do you think will happen when the pressure becomes too much for the baggie to hold?

Give it a try for yourself and make sure to share your results with us on the BASF Science Club Facebook page!

What you will need:

- Plastic sandwich bags
- Baking soda
- Toilet paper
- Vinegar
- Food coloring (optional)
- Safety googles and gloves

Process:

1. Make sure to set up in an area that is okay to get a little messy.
2. Take a few squares of toilet paper, spoon in some baking soda, and fold it up to make a little packet.
3. Open a plastic bag and fill it about half way full of vinegar. *Optionally: add a few drops of food coloring.*
4. While the vinegar is in one corner of the bag, hold the baking soda packet in the other corner. *Be careful that they don't touch yet!*
5. Seal the bag really well, leaving a good amount of air in the bag.
6. Now shake the bag and watch what happens!

Share your experiment results with us!

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