Bubbles: Teacher Notes



How big is a bubble?

Group Arrangement

Students work in pairs

Tools

- 4 kinds of liquid dishwasher detergent such as Joy, Ivory, Dawn, Palmolive
- commercial bubble liquid
- water
- glycerin
- rulers
- straws
- pie tins

Procedure

- 1. Mix the bubble liquid using 1 part detergent to 6 to 10 parts water for each liquid dishwasher detergent in separate pie tins. Have a container for the commercial bubble liquid also
- 2. Using a straw, blow gently into each soapy liquid
- 3. Time the duration of the bubbles
- 4. Also, using a ruler, measure the diameter and height of the largest bubbles.
- 5. Make a bar graph for each measurement.
 - One bar graph for detergent names and duration of bubbles
 - One bar graph for detergent names and diameters
 - One bar graph for detergent names and heights
- 6. Repeat the previous experiments, but this time add glycerin to the liquids
- 7. Using your graphs, explain if and how the glycerin made a difference to the bubbles

8. Explain how the home-made liquid compared to the commercial liquid

Math Connection

As a result of this activity, students collect, graph and interpret data