

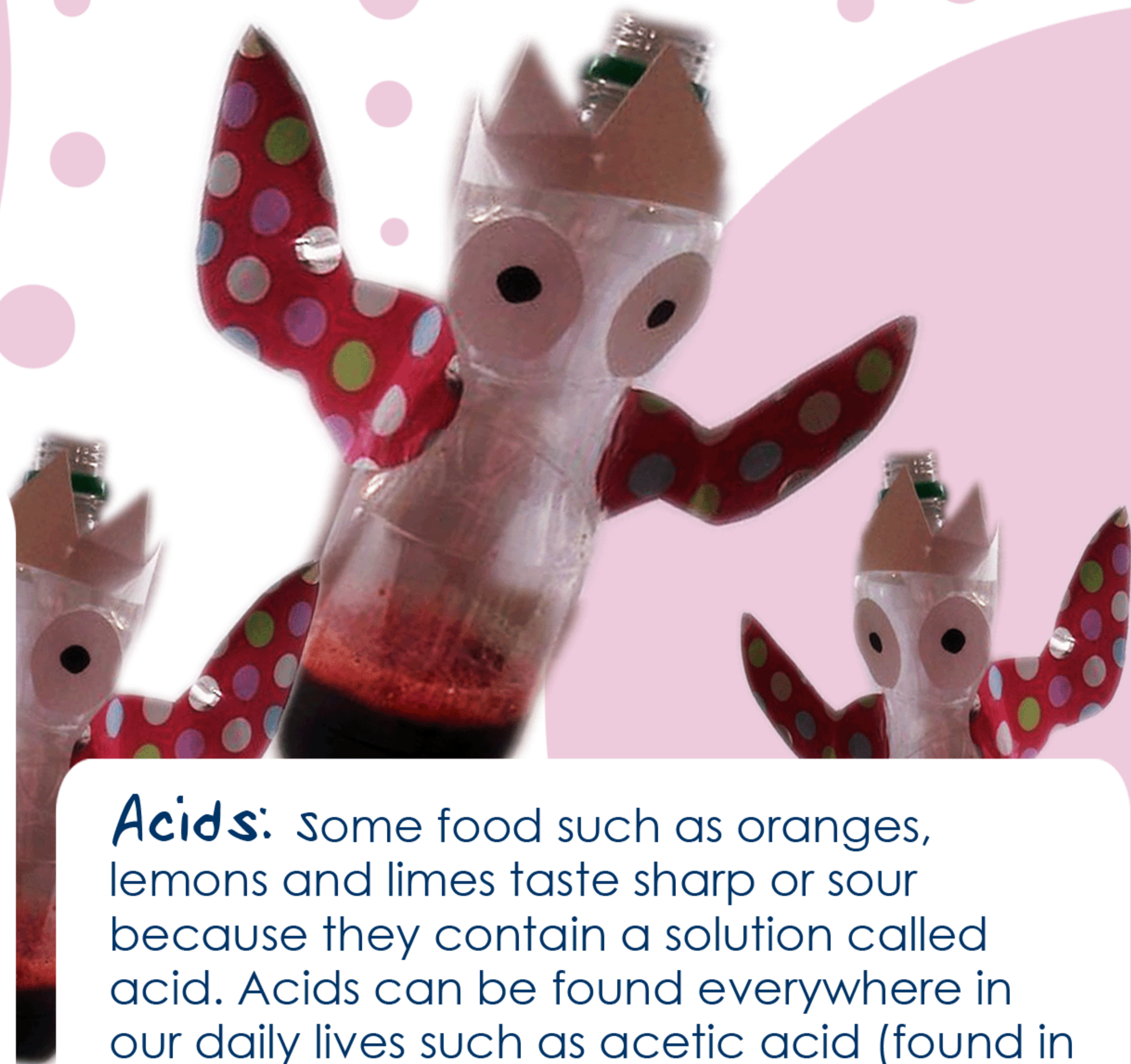
Are there aliens in your kitchen?

Have you ever imagined what an alien looks like? Now you can create your very own alien in your kitchen and make it explode!

Materials Needed:

- Empty plastic bottle
- Vinegar
- Bicarbonate of soda
- Food colouring
- Colouring pens, card & sticky tape
- Washing up liquid

1. Using the paper card and coloring pens draw and cut out wobbly legs and arms, teeth for your alien.
2. Tape the eyes, arms and all the alien creature's limbs to the plastic bottle with sticky tape.
3. Fill 3/4 of the bottle with vinegar (**an acid**)
4. Add in a large squirt of washing up liquid, a drop of food colouring and mix the contents by swirling the bottle gently.
5. Using a paper funnel add one large heaped teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda (**a base**) into the bottle.



Acids: some food such as oranges, lemons and limes taste sharp or sour because they contain a solution called acid. Acids can be found everywhere in our daily lives such as acetic acid (found in vinegar) and sulphuric acid (used in car batteries).

Bases: The opposite to an acid is called a base. Common bases you will find in your home are baking power and toothpaste.

A substance that is neither an acid nor a base is called **neutral**. How acidic or how basic a substance is, is measured on a **pH scale**.

What is happening to your alien?

When the acid (vinegar) is mixed with the base (bicarbonate of soda) a chemical reaction occurs and a gas called carbon dioxide is released. When this gas is released it makes bubbles in the vinegar.

The carbon dioxide bubbles in the vinegar react with the washing up liquid and make it foam.



Make sure to tell us about the aliens in your kitchen by uploading photos and videos to www.scienceweek.ie