



DRUMMER HOF adapted by Barbara Emberly

Drummer Hof is viewed by most children as having the best job of all - the firing of the cannon. Loud noises or explosions capture our attention and we want to know how they happen.

You can do a simple demonstration which is comparable to Drummer Hof's deed using a film canister and the magic of chemistry. Alka-seltzer™ dissolved in water produces the gas, carbon dioxide. When this gas is trapped inside the film canister, pressure builds up and the film canister top explodes up and off.

MATERIALS: Alka-seltzer™ tablets, film canister, water, plastic pipet (optional), teaspoon

ACTIVITY: Place 20 drops or one teaspoon of water in the bottom of the film canister. Add 1/4 Alka-seltzer™ tablet and put top on film canister quickly. Set on desk or table away from students and wait (2 minutes). *You should have younger students cover their ears. The top will be "fired off" into the air!*

SOURCE: Operation Physics activity entitled "Alka-Bomb".

STANDARDS:

BSL: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 3.1, 3.2, 4.5, 6.2, 9.1, 9.5, 9.7, 11.2, 12.1, 12.2

NCTM: 4d, 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 10a, 10c, 10d

SCS: A1, B1, B2, D1, E1, E2, H2, H4, H5

Emberly, Barbara. Drummer Hof. Simon & Schuster, Inc., 1967. ISBN#0-671-66249-X.