



# Science Experiment: Glow in the Dark Lava Lamp Project: Arts & Crafts

## Supplies:

- 1 empty water bottle per person
- Water
- Vegetable oil
- 1 Alka-Seltzer tablet per person
- 1- 2 Glow Sticks per person
- Scissors or Knife

**Time: 10-15 minutes**

## What to Do:

1. Fill your bottle about two thirds of the way with oil and the rest of the way with water, leaving about an inch free at the top.
2. Add several drops of food coloring.
3. Crack and shake one glow stick until it is completely lit up.  
**CAUTION: Contents of glow sticks may be dangerous if ingested**
4. Holding the glow stick upright, take scissors or a knife and cut off the top of the glow stick.
5. Empty contents of the glow stick into jar. Do not mix or stir. If needed, repeat the process with another glow stick.
6. Break an Alka-Seltzer tablet into three or four pieces. Then drop a piece in and watch the magic.
7. As soon as the tablet hits the layer of water, it will start to fizz and the colored water will erupt!
8. The bubbles will stop as soon as the tablet dissipates, but they'll start up again as soon as you add another tablet.

## Reflect:

1. What happens when the glow stick is added?
2. What happens when the alka seltzer is added?
3. Does water and oil mix together? Why or why not?
4. How does this experiment compare to actual lava lamps?

## Apply:

1. In what areas, have you seen similar reactions?
2. How does this lava lamp compare to a jellyfish?
3. How can the concept of creating the lava lamp relate to other areas?

Sources: <http://www.pbs.org/parents/crafts-for-kids/diy-lava-lamp/>  
<http://www.instructables.com/id/Glow-in-the-Dark-Lava-Lamp/?ALLSTEPS>