

## Praxis “Making Science Fun”

### Classroom Chemistry – Rubber Eggs

Can you make an egg bounce?

#### Materials:

- Eggs
- Vinegar
- Jar with lid.



**Procedure:** (Remember to be sure to have your parent’s permission and they have the time to watch and help you.)

- Place an unpeeled hardboiled egg in the jar.
- Pour in vinegar until it completely covers the egg and to reduce the smell, cover with a secure lid.
- Put it aside for 3 days.
- Remove the egg from the vinegar and rinse off the remaining shell material.
- Examine the egg. Gently poke and squeeze it. Lift the egg 10 centimetres off the table and drop it (you may want to do this outside if you want to see how high you can go before it breaks).

#### What's happening?

When you first put vinegar in the jar you could see bubbles coming off the egg. This is a result of the vinegar, which is an acid, eating away at the calcium in the eggshells (they are mostly calcium carbonate). After a few days the shell is eaten away leaving the inner membrane giving it a rubbery feel. If the shells are thick and haven’t dissolved yet you may need to drain off the liquid and replace it with fresh vinegar and let it sit for a couple more days.

#### Extension:

Try it with a raw egg. You’ll find the result looks very interesting but it can get messy if it breaks. Check out: <http://reachoutmichigan.org/funexperiments/quick/eric/eggs.html>

Bones are made up of calcium. Predict what would happen if you put chicken bones in vinegar for a few days. We need calcium in our diets everyday for our bones to stay nice and dense and hard. When people don’t get enough calcium in their diet, their bones become brittle and break more easily. So, to keep your bones hard and strong, get lots of calcium from drinking milk and eating dairy products!

This activity is based on our seasonal “Easter” Learning Kit but is also part of our “Classroom Chemistry” kit that is currently under development. Our teaching kits (described on our website) are loaned out FREE to provide classroom teachers and parents of home schooled children an opportunity to explore Science in interesting ways. Please consider volunteering as one of our classroom speakers or allow your business as a field trip location.



The next major event that Praxis is involved with will be the [Summer Camps for Kids](http://www.praxismh.ca/MHCsummercamp.html) put on by Medicine Hat College. Praxis developed and supplies the kits that are used in the both the Medicine Hat and Brooks camps. For more information check out <http://www.praxismh.ca/MHCsummercamp.html>.

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PRAXIS, “Making Science Fun”. Contact Praxis at [praxis@praxismh.ca](mailto:praxis@praxismh.ca), [www.praxismh.ca](http://www.praxismh.ca), Tweet or follow us @PraxisMedHat, or friend us on Facebook. Address: c/o 200 7th Street S.W., Medicine Hat, AB, T1A 4K1 Phone: 403-527-5365, Fax: 403-527-6570.