

# Dissolving 'coral' and 'shells' in vinegar



## Details

### What you need

- Clear cup or container
- ½ cup of vinegar
- A piece of chalk or seashells

## Introduction

This activity demonstrates the ability of an acidic substance (in this case, vinegar) to 'dissolve' coral reefs and shells which protect ocean life. Coral and shells in our oceans are not dissolving this fast at the moment. However, the more humans burn fuels the more acidic our oceans become. Corals and shells may dissolve this quickly in the future.

## Activity steps

1. Carefully half fill a clear cup or container with clear vinegar.
2. Add a piece of chalk to the container.
3. Observe what is happening.

## Summary questions

What can you see happening?

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What do you think is happening?

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Predict what might happen to coral found in the oceans in the future.

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