



Let's Make Natural Gas!

This is a Gas Smart experiment that will help you understand how natural gas is made. In nature, it takes millions of years for ocean plants and animals to decay, which creates natural gas. It may take several days for you to see the results of this experiment, so be patient!



Materials needed:

- Empty bottle
- Balloon (don't blow it up)
- Raw vegetable scraps (carrots, lettuce, potato peels)
- Raw ground beef or tuna (small amount)
- Soil (1/2-cup)
- Water (3 tablespoons)
- Rubber bands

Directions:

- 1) Collect all materials listed above.
- 2) Put the vegetable scraps and raw meat in the bottle.
- 3) Put soil into bottle, covering scraps and meat.
- 4) Pour water into bottle, not directly on soil and scraps.
- 5) Stretch the balloon over the open end of the bottle. Tightly wrap your rubber band around the base of the balloon to seal the top of the bottle.
- 6) Carefully move the bottle to a warm place (like a window ledge) where the sun can shine on it. Try not to shake it up while moving it. Let your bottle sit undisturbed.



Lab Questions:

- 1) What do you think will happen during the next few days?
- 2) What will happen to the balloon?
- 3) Why is this happening?

