Pasta with Pep!

A wet noodle may be more fun than you thought - especially when it's souped up with Soda Pop Power!
The thing that makes soda pop different from most other liquids is the fizz. The soda company puts the fizz in soda by adding a gas called carbon dioxide. You can see some of this carbon dioxide fizz, bubble, and pop in your first activity with soda pop!

Materials:

- Rottini noodles (uncooked)
- Clear soda
- 2 clear plastic cups (8 oz.)
- Watch (with a second hand)

Procedures:

1. You and your partner should each pick a cup and fill it about 3/4 full of soda. Choose 2 or 3 noodles and place them in each cup. Observe the noodles closely for a minute or two. What happens?

2. You and your partner should each choose the noodle that went up and down the most in your cup. This is your prize noodle! Remove the noodles from the cups and save your prize noodle. Put a little racing mark on your best noodle so you can tell it from your partner's.
3. Put one cup away and place the other cup in the middle as your Noodle Challenge Cup! When you say "GO" you and your partner should place your prize noodles in the challenge cup. The noodle that gets to the surface the most times in two minutes wins! GOOD LUCK!

Try some other kinds of noodles to see which type works best!

Think about this ...

Have you ever noticed bubbles forming on anything else you have put in soda? Did you ever wonder why they form on some things faster than others? Pour about 1/2 cup of soda into a clear plastic cup. At the same time, place a pipe cleaner and a straw side by side into the cup. Was there a difference in how fast the bubbles formed on each? What do you think might cause the difference?

Where's the Chemistry?

In this activity, you placed noodles in soda pop and probably noticed that bubbles formed on the noodles. Bubbles formed on the noodles because of the carbon dioxide gas in the soda pop. Once the carbon dioxide has a surface, such as the noodle, to form on, it can build up and form bubbles, and cause noodle raising excitement!

The American Chemical Society develops materials for elementary school age children to spark their interest in science and teach developmentally appropriate chemistry concepts. The *Activities for Children* collection includes hands-on activities, articles, puzzles, and games on topics related to children's everyday experiences.

The collection can be used to supplement the science curriculum, celebrate National Chemistry Week, develop Chemists Celebrate Earth Day events, invite children to give science a try at a large event, or to explore just for fun at home.

Find more activities, articles, puzzles and games at www.acs.org/kids.

Safety Tips

This activity is intended for elementary school children under the direct supervision of an adult. The American Chemical Society cannot be responsible for any accidents or injuries that may result from conducting the activities without proper supervision, from not specifically following directions, or from ignoring the cautions contained in the text.

Always:

- Work with an adult.
- Read and follow all directions for the activity.
- Read all warning labels on all materials being used.
- Wear eye protection.
- Follow safety warnings or precautions, such as wearing gloves or tying back long hair.
- Use all materials carefully, following the directions given.
- Be sure to clean up and dispose of materials properly when you are finished with an activity.
- Wash your hands well after every activity.

Never eat or drink while conducting an experiment, and be careful to keep all of the materials used away from your mouth, nose, and eyes!

Never experiment on your own!

For more detailed information on safety go to www.acs.org/education and click on "Safety Guidelines".