



Tea Bag Rockets

Ignite your curiosity, and spark your interest with the “Tea Bag Rockets” experiment! Embark on an exciting journey as you become a rocket scientist. You’ll learn about the different ways that hot and cold air can move, whilst observing how an every day material burns. Make sure you get an adult’s help with this one!

Materials

- 🚀 1 tea bag
- 🚀 Scissors
- 🚀 Matches
- 🚀 Non-flammable plate/surface



Method

Step 1: Cut off the top of the tea bag.

Step 2: Empty the contents of the tea bag.

Step 3: Unfold and open the bag so that it forms a cylinder and place it upright on the plate.

Step 4: With adult supervision, light the top of the cylinder and stand back!

What is happening? The Science explained.

The burning bag gives off heat and generates less dense air inside and above it. This triggers a convection current of rising hot air above the flame. The volume of space created at the bottom of the burning cylinder (by the hot rising air) is filled by the denser (and cooler) air from outside of the burning cylinder. As the bag burns, the ash that remains is so lightweight so that the hot air is strong enough to lift it into the air. When the ash rises, it cools and then falls back down.

