

# TRY IT AT HOME!

## SWIMMING RAISINS



Put one raisin into a cup of water. Put one raisin into a cup of clear soda (like Sprite). What happens?



The ability of a solid to float or sink is based on its density compared to the density of the liquid. In the water, the raisin sinks because it is more dense than water. The carbon dioxide gas in the soda causes bubbles that act like "floaties" on the solids (raisins), causing the raisin to float. But when the raisin gets to the surface, the bubbles pop and the carbon dioxide gas escapes into the air. This causes the raisin to sink again, and the process repeats itself. The process continues as long as sufficient carbon dioxide is available.



Try using other solids such as a piece of cork, a paper clip, and a popcorn kernel. Why do you get different results? Hint: Corks are less dense than the soda. Paper clips are more dense.

