



FREE RESOURCES

Pictures for talk in primary science

A picture can be a very good stimulus for children to engage in effective talk in science. Using pictures is an inclusive approach which facilitates high levels of participation. Pictures can also be used as a starting point for inquiry. The discussions the children have will generate questions that they want to investigate.

Asking the children carefully chosen questions about the picture will support them with learning to:

- construct explanations and link their ideas with evidence
- make confident challenges to the ideas of others
- explore scientific terminology and use it with genuine understanding

Pictures for talk in science activities are designed to be very open ended and usable with any age of children. The activities can be done as a quick ten minute starter, or extended into a longer and more in-depth lesson.



WHAT TO DO

Download the image overleaf by following the [link](#) and either display on a whiteboard or give children printed copies.

Ask the children to work in groups of three to discuss the following questions:

WHAT DO YOU THINK HAS HAPPENED TO THIS BUBBLE?

WHY DO YOU THINK THIS?

WHAT DO YOU THINK MIGHT HAPPEN TO THE BUBBLE OVER TIME?

WHY DO YOU THINK THIS?

OTHER QUESTIONS TO GENERATE AND PROMOTE THINKING AND EXPLAINING

Where are the crystals forming?

What do you notice about the crystals on the surface of the bubble (e.g. are they all the same shape or size)?

What do you see happening at the base of the bubble?

What do you notice about the top of the bubble?

Looking carefully at the whole image, can you find examples of three different states of matter/can you find examples of solids, liquids and gases?

When do you think this photograph was taken?

FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS THAT YOU MIGHT CONSIDER INVESTIGATING:

Are bubbles always spherical?

Does this depend on the shape of the device used to form them?

Does the colour of water used to create the bubble mix change the colour of the bubbles produced?



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