"Plop Plop, Fizz Fizz, Oh What a Relief It Is!" ALKA-SELTZER LAB

Goal: To design and run an experiment to test the effect that different water temperatures have on the time it takes to dissolve an Alka-Seltzer tablet.

Info: Alka-Seltzer tablets contain a weak acid (citric acid) and a weak base (sodium bicarbonate or baking soda). In the solid tablet, they do not react, but as soon as they hit water, they begin to react and neutralize one another, creating carbon dioxide gas, water, and aqueous sodium citrate. Aspirin is also included in the tablet for pain relief, but is not part of the acid/base reaction in the water.

Materials: 5 Alka-Seltzer tablets per group max, hot plate, water, ice, thermometer, 250 mL beaker, graduated cylinder

What you will turn in: Alka Seltzer Lab Prep Sheet
Alka Seltzer Lab Formal Write Up

Remember, one of the five tablets you are given must be the 'control,' you need to dissolve the whole tablet in room temp. water to get a baseline reading on the rate of the reaction.

This project will be handwritten and done in class. Today in class I want you to brainstorm with your partner and write up a procedure and data table (one per person), and start to set up the graph. Tomorrow is go day, we will do the lab right off the bat, then write up our final draft in class.

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