

Ann's Creative Corner

Project #450: Dancing Popcorn!

- Supplies: clear glass jar such as a canning jar, White vinegar, baking soda and unpopped popcorn seeds.
- Place paper towels or a cloth onto a tray.
- Place your jar onto the tray on top of the paper towels.
- Place vinegar into the glass jar about $\frac{1}{3}$ full.
- Add a spoonful or two of the unpopped popcorn. Children can help with this. NOTE that the popcorn sits at the bottom of the jar and does not move.
- Children can then take a spoonful of baking soda and add it to the jar.
- Watch as the baking soda and vinegar create a bubbly "Gas".
- Keep watching and you will see the popcorn starting to float and it will continue to bubble and "Dance" in the bubbles.
- After the bubbles are gone, what happens to the popcorn kernels? Do they float? Do they sink?

Activity: Must be closely supervised by adults! Try making popcorn in a popcorn maker. Try making popcorn in a microwave. Try making popcorn on the stove (Adults Only)! Put some margarine into a good non-stick pot and melt it a little. Add your unpopped kernels to this. Place the snugly fitting lid onto the pot. Keep this warm on medium heat on the stove. Slide and move the pan on the electric burner on the electric stove. Stop the sliding action at times. Listen for the sound of popcorn popping. Slide it a little more so it does not burn.

