

Safety Information for Elephant Toothpaste Experiment

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Personal Protective Equipment

- Goggles
- Nitrile gloves
- Lab coat or other protective clothing
 - Long sleeves
 - Long pants
- Closed toed shoes

Hazards

The materials of the reaction are yeast, water, dish soap, food coloring, and hydrogen peroxide. All materials are benign except the hydrogen peroxide which can cause mild irritation to the skin and eyes. To prevent any health concerns, wear nitrile gloves, goggles, closed toed shoes, and a lab coat. In the case of the hydrogen peroxide coming into contact with the skin or eyes, run the exposed area under cold water. Do not ingest the foam or hydrogen peroxide.

The reaction is exothermic meaning that it produces heat. Before trying to dispose of the foam, ensure that it is cooled to room temperature. Do not attempt to handle the foam during the reaction. In the case of a burn, run the exposed area under cold running water.

In the case of an emergency, call 911 and follow the appropriate instructions.

Disposal

Once the experiment is finished, all materials can be flushed down the sink while running cold water. Make sure to wear all of the personal protective equipment during this step as well as during the experiment.

Liability

The University of Delaware and the NRT MIDAS Program are not liable for any damages caused by conducting this experiment. By reading this document the user agrees to take responsibility for any damages caused by conducting the listed experiment.