

Square Bubble

I know...I know...I said that nearly all bubbles are spherical. Nearly all of them are but not this one. In this experiment we'll be making a square bubble!

What do I need:

- Washing up liquid and water
- Bucket or large container
- 8 pipe cleaners
- 12 Straws
- Scissors

How do I do it?

STEP 1 - First thing is to make our square bubble maker. Take a pipe cleaner and bend and twist it round to make a 'corner shape' as shown.

WARNING: Make sure that you don't make your square bubble maker too big, make sure it can fit in your bucket!

STEP 2 - Get an adult to help out chopping all of your straws in half.

STEP 3 - Slide your 'half straws' over your pipe cleaner 'corner shape' to make one corner of your cube.

STEP 4 - Repeat this process to build out your straw cube framework.

STEP 5 - Submerge your bubbler-maker into your bubble mixture. Lift it out and give it a little shake and you should see a wondrous site, a square bubble!

What's going on?

Doesn't look like it's possible, does it? Looks sort of mystical and out of this world but it's actually all to do with pressure.

A bubble film forms between each of the sides of the cube framework. This means that you can have a square bubble in the centre where the pressure is close enough to equal to make it work.

More Fun Please - Experiment like a real scientist!

- Try not to play with your bubble for too long!?
- Would other shapes be possible? Could you make a triangle bubble?
- Try using a straw to blow a 'normal' bubble inside the square bubble, why does that work?

