

# Jack-Ooze-Lantern

Have some freaky chemistry fun with your jack-o-lantern.

## Collect

- Jack-O-Lantern
- Cup
- Fast-acting yeast
- Spoon
- Newspaper or disposable tablecloth
- Empty 8-ounce water bottle
- 30 volume hydrogen peroxide (found at beauty supply stores)
- Disposable gloves
- Liquid soap or shampoo
- Food coloring
- Adult safety partner



## It's alive!

1. In a cup, mix 1 packet of fast-acting yeast with 4 tablespoons of warm water.
2. Stir until the yeast is well incorporated with the water. If the mixture seems too paste-like, add a bit more water so that it flows.

## Prep the pumpkin

3. Place the carved jack-o-lantern down on newspaper or a disposable tablecloth.
4. For this step, ask for an adult's help. The adult should wear disposable gloves and carefully pour the hydrogen peroxide into the 8-ounce bottle until it is about 1/3 of the way full. Be careful not to get the liquid on your skin.
5. Add a good squeeze of soap and a couple of drops of food coloring to the bottle.
6. Carefully place the bottle inside the jack-o-lantern.

## Unleash the ooze

7. Pour the yeast and water mixture into the bottle.
8. Quickly toss on the jack-o-lantern topper.
9. Step back and watch!

## How does it work?

This foamy chemistry experiment requires three ingredients: hydrogen peroxide, liquid soap, and a catalyst. A catalyst speeds up the rate of a chemical reaction. In this case, the activated yeast allows oxygen from the hydrogen peroxide to be released rapidly. Liquid soap traps the oxygen causing lots and lots of tiny bubbles to form. There isn't much room for these bubbles inside of a small 8-ounce bottle, so they erupt out of the narrow bottleneck and ooze out of the face of the jack-o-lantern.