



Dancing Raisins



What you need:

CLEAR, CARBONATED BEVERAGE IN A BOTTLE
SEVERAL RAISINS

I FEEL *LIGHT* AS A FEATHER!

What to do:

OPEN THE BOTTLE AND REMOVE 1/4 OF ITS LIQUID.
PLACE SEVERAL RAISINS INSIDE THE BOTTLE AND ALLOW IT TO REST ON A TABLE WITH THE CAP OFF OF THE BOTTLE.
OBSERVE THE "UP AND DOWN" MOTION OF THE RAISINS AS THEY REACH THE SURFACE AND FALL BACK TOWARDS THE BOTTOM OF THE BOTTLE.

What's going on?

TINY BUBBLES OF CARBON DIOXIDE GAS FORM ON THE ROUGH SURFACE OF THE RAISINS. CARBON DIOXIDE IS THE REASON WHY YOU HEAR THAT "PPHSSSSSS" WHEN YOU FIRST OPEN THE BOTTLE. AS THE BUBBLES GROW ON THE RAISIN'S SURFACE THEY ACT LIKE TINY LIFE JACKETS THAT INCREASE ITS BUOYANCY. ONCE THEY REACH THE SURFACE OF THE LIQUID, THE BUBBLES BURST AND THE RAISIN FALLS TO THE BOTTOM OF THE BOTTLE UNTIL THE PROCESS BEGINS AGAIN. FOR AN EXTRA EXPERIMENT, TRY REPLACING THE LID ON THE BOTTLE AND WATCH WHAT HAPPENS. WHY DO YOU THINK THE RAISIN'S STOP DANCING FOR YOU? HMMM.....