Name: _____ Date: _____

Odile and the Fizzy Cup

Reading level 7 (3rd grade) · 267 words

Odile's uncle put white powder in a cup. "Watch," he said. He poured in a little vinegar.

Fizz! Bubbles rushed up and over the top of the cup. Odile jumped back and laughed.

"Where did the bubbles come from?" she asked. "A gas," said her uncle. "The powder and the vinegar made it."

"That is a chemical reaction," said her uncle. "Two things mixed, and something new came out!" Odile poked the foam.

"Look," said Odile, and she pointed at the cup. "The powder was white. The foam is not!"

In the kitchen, her uncle held up the white powder. "This is baking soda for muffins," he said. "What does it do?" asked Odile.

"It meets an acid in muffins," he said. "An acid is something sour. Bubbles of gas puff them up."

Odile's apple slice turned brown. "Air touched it," said her uncle. "That is a reaction, too."

Her uncle squeezed lemon juice on a slice. "Lemon juice can slow the browning," he said. "Let us see."

Odile's old bike sat in the rain. "Is the bike sick?" she asked. "No," said her uncle.

"That is rust. Iron, water and air make it. Rust is red-brown and crumbly."

That night, Odile saw fireworks go boom. She covered her ears and giggled. They lit the sky red, blue and green.

"Why so many colors?" she asked. "Many colors come from different metals," said her uncle. "Ooh!" said Odile.

Try this with a grown-up. Squeeze lemon on one apple half, then wait an hour.

Look at both halves now. Which half is brown, and which half is not?

Questions

1. What does Odile's uncle pour into the cup?

A. Milk
B. Vinegar
C. Juice

2. What makes the bubbles in the cup?

A. Odile's breath

B. A gas made by the powder and the vinegar

C. Hot water

3. What is a chemical reaction?

A. A kind of muffin

B. A loud noise

C. Things mix and something new comes out

4. Why do muffins puff up?

A. Someone blows into them

B. Baking soda and an acid make bubbles of gas in the batter

C. The oven is cold

5. What does "crumbly" mean in this book?

A. Falling apart in little bits

B. Hard to break

C. Very shiny

Words to know

reaction: making new stuff

gas: air-like stuff

acid: something sour

rust: red-brown crumbs

fireworks: colorful sky booms

Answer key: Odile and the Fizzy Cup

1. B. Vinegar
2. B. A gas made by the powder and the vinegar
3. C. Things mix and something new comes out
4. B. Baking soda and an acid make bubbles of gas in the batter
5. A. Falling apart in little bits