

Hey Phuture Phyz Phans,

So, I guess you have chosen Saltwater Pentacell. Nice choice! If you follow the steps carefully, this experiment will not take too long to set up and it is fairly easy to understand. If you are having a difficult time trying to find and buy the alligator clips, try Radio Shack or any other electronics store. Also, many of the supply's can be found at either Lowes or Home Depot. Although, I bet you could find some aluminum foil in your own house... (if not I am sure Raleys or Safeway have some).

When building the experiment, make sure that you follow the directions exactly. If the experiment does not work the first time, go back and double check all the directions. If it doesn't work again, consult the problem shooting section of the instructions. And don't forget you can always add vinegar if you are afraid you did not put enough salt in. Make sure none of the wires inside the cups of water are touching and making sure the alligator clips are touching only metal (not the plastic part of the actual wire) is also crucial.

To be absolutely honest, this experiment is one of the less exciting ones. I have extreme advice to those of you doing this one next year: make the experiment is exciting for the kids. Play music, use bright colors, make it hands on, have lots of energy and don't be afraid to attract people to your experiment. Don't just have the kids, connect and unconnect the two wires to watch the bulb light up. Trust me; they get pretty bored and unexcited about that. However, this experiment is actually very interesting and lots of fun to do. Plus, the parents love it because you actually have to use some brains to figure out how it works. So good luck and have a blast!

Lisa and Blair

Class of 2009

P.S. This vinegar smells really bad.