



BUDDING "VOLCANOLOGISTS" IN PRE-K CONDUCT VOLCANO EXPERIMENTS

This week, Pre-K's budding Volcanologists learned all about Volcanos for the letter V! After reading the book *Warning: Volcano!* by Autumn Leigh they decided to try and make their own eruption. Using vinegar and baking soda, they first tried mixing them in a large soda bottle. The children unanimously agreed that the liquid would overflow the top of the bottle. They were surprised to see small bubbles but no eruption. Next, they tried the same experiment in a smaller beaker. This time, the foam and bubbles not only reached the top of the beaker, but it overflowed all over the table! Next, they were curious what would happen if they added water into the mixture. The children hypothesized that it might not erupt at all. When they mixed the water and vinegar equally, they had the same huge eruption as when there was no water- that was a surprise. But, when they put more water than vinegar and then added the baking soda, it did not erupt at all. Even when they tried adding more baking soda, nothing happened. In total there were four experiments with three different results.

Doing science with young children promotes wonder, new vocabulary, excitement and conversation in the classroom. By using real beakers and ingredients, the children feel like the older kids in school that they look up to.

