Dancing Raisins

Materials:

- Unopened Club Soda or another clear soda – Sprite, 7-Up, etc.
- Raisins – fresh works best
- Clear 8 oz. glass/cup

Instructions:

1. Separate individual raisins so they are not stuck together.
2. Fill your clear glass with soda.
3. Drop the individual raisins into the glass and observe if they sink or float.
4. Sit patiently and watch what happens to the raisins (this may take a few minutes).

The Science

This experiment is testing the density of the raisins and the soda. When you first drop the raisins into the cup with the soda, they sink to the bottom of the glass because they are originally more dense than the soda. However, since the soda is carbonated, it starts to release carbon dioxide bubbles that attach to the hard surfaces on the raisins. Due to an increase in buoyancy, the attached bubbles mimic a flotation device and life the raisin to the surface of the water. Once the carbon dioxide bubbles reach the surface of the soda, they pop and the gases inside of them are released into the air. Once the gas is released, the raisin loses buoyancy and will fall back down to the bottom of the glass. This process will continue over and over again until the all of the carbon dioxide has escaped and the soda is flat.

Did you complete this experiment?

You could become a certified Weather Lab Assistant.
Send us a photo or video of you and the completed experiment at **kaaltv.com/weatherlab.**
The Weather Lab Assistant of the week is announced on Wednesdays on ABC 6 News Good Morning!