

Heat It Up!



Ms. Tan stood in front of our science class and assigned an experiment that we had to pass.

“Today, we’ll use Peeps to make the deduction that microwaves help cause an eruption.

“The microwaves will produce heat in the candy. Heat cooks the poor Peeps, but this comes in handy! They’ll change size and shape, oh yes, they will grow. Let’s find out how much—only one way to know!”

“We’ll need a few items to complete the task, and if you need help, I am here—please, just ask. You could get dirty and make quite a mess. Wearing smocks and protective goggles is best.”

I put on my goggles and squinted to see the directions I should follow carefully.

Use one small plastic bottle and three marshmallow Peeps to create a Peep-cano with lava that seeps.

“Only one bottle? That’s nothing!” I said.

“I’ll use two bigger bottles and fill those instead. Ten stuffed in each bottle will beat all the rest—the biggest Peep-cano that’s found in the West!”



I crammed ten in each bottle to cause the reaction.
I followed the microwave's rotating action.
Amazingly, Peeps soon began to expand
in the two giant bottles on the microwave's pan.

The marshmallows grew and took on a new shape.
They stretched and they oozed. My mouth was agape.
The heat made each sugary critter grow bigger.
So the heat caused the change—that was the trigger!

Yet they didn't stop, those small Peeps kept on growing
and burst out of their bottles with no sign of slowing.
They filled up the oven and forced open the door.
Twenty Peeps now exploded, dripping onto the floor.



The candy kept melting, erupting with ease,
and soon the whole class stood in Peeps to their knees!
I took off my goggles and started to shout,
“Ms. Tan, I'm in trouble—please, *please* help me out!”

Ms. Tan, with a frown, waded up to my desk.
With a mop in her hand, she said, “Clean up this mess!
A smaller Peep-cano would be just as nice.
Instead, you neglected to heed my advice.”

Sheepishly red, I cleaned up the floor
and mopped up the Peeps that erupted before.
Our science class put back their bottles and beakers,
and left school quite early to put on dry sneakers.

Exploding Peeps

Materials:

-  Three Peeps
-  One small, empty plastic bottle
-  Microwave oven



Other Suggested Materials:

-  Goggles
-  Smocks



Instructions:

- 1.** Cut a few inches off the top of the plastic bottle.
- 2.** Fill the bottle with three Peeps.
- 3.** Place the bottle in the middle of the microwave.
- 4.** Microwave for about thirty seconds and see what happens!

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