

Polishing Pennies Experiment

Materials Needed:

Pennies

Small cups

Paper towels

Various household liquids to test: vinegar, BBQ sauce, ketchup, lemon juice, soda, orange juice, milk, liquid soap, alcohol, others you have around the house, be creative!

Scientific Question: What household liquids can clean pennies?

Hypothesis: What will clean the pennies the best? Make an educated guess.

Procedure

1-Have one cup per household liquid you chose. Put a small amount of liquid in the cup.

2-Drop one penny in each cup and wait 5 minutes.

3-Take each penny out and wipe with a paper towel.

4-Observe the changes in the pennies.

Results: Which liquid cleaned the pennies the best?

Discussion:

Why do you think some liquids did not clean the pennies?

What made some liquids clean the pennies?

Do you think this would work with other coins?

What other liquids could you try next time?

