

Ship's Log: Nov. 19, 2000 "Sergei led the way into the top of the Progress [supply vehicle]. Sergei said the nose of the docking probe 'smells like space.' It did have kind of a burnt toast odor to it — very faint."



POPPIN' ROCKETS

You can build your own rocket out of a film canister and watch it blast sky-high.

You'll need:

- ★ a Fuji brand film canister and lid (many photo labs give empty canisters away for free)
- ★ baking soda
- ★ vinegar
- ★ safety goggles

Note: Do this project outside. The baking soda and vinegar reaction makes a mess! Plus your rocket is going to fly high! As soon as you put the lid on the film canister, move out of the way and stand well back.

1 Remove the top of the film canister and pack the lid tightly with baking soda.

2 Fill a quarter of the film canister with vinegar.

3 Put on your safety goggles. Then gently put the lid on the film canister and snap it closed.



4 Turn the canister upside down, put it on the ground and quickly stand back.

After a few seconds, the canister will blast off. If your rocket fizzes, try a film canister with a tighter-fitting lid.



What's Happening?

You are creating a chemical reaction. The vinegar reacts with the baking soda and produces carbon dioxide gas. The gas builds up until the small canister can no longer contain it and the canister separates from the lid, shooting sky-high.