Green Bank Observatory Science Center Family Science Lab 2019

# ACIDS \& 

## BASES



Today, we're going to learn about acids. We can measure how acidic something is on a pH scale from 0 to 7 .


We're also going to learn about bases. We can measure how basic something is on a pH scale from 7 to 14 .


If you put these together, you can make a full pH scale, which includes acids and bases. You'll notice that the farther the pH gets from 7, the stronger it is. If something has a pH of 7 , we call it neutral.


In order to figure out where something belongs on the pH scale, we use a pH indicator, which turns different colors when it comes into contact with an acid or a base.

Surprisingly, one very good pH indicator is red cabbage juice!
Below are a list of common substances you might find around your school. Some of them are acids, some are bases, and some are neither!


Use the chart below to develop your own pH scale for red cabbage juice!

| Substance | pH | Acid, base, or neutral? | Color |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Lemon juice | 2 |  |  |
| Soda pop | 3 |  |  |
| Antacids | 4 |  |  |
| Coffee | 5 |  |  |
| Milk | 6 |  |  |
| Pure water | 7 |  |  |
| Baking soda | 9 |  |  |
| Hand soap | 10 |  |  |
| Ammonia | 11 |  |  |
| Soapy water | 12 |  |  |
| Bleach | 13 |  |  |

Now that you know what colors your indicator turns for different pHs, try to figure out the pH of these other liquids:
Vinegar
Tap water
Milk of magnesia

Source: https://youtu.be// 18K2upEHLc

