Fast Rust

Make steel rust quickly.

MATERIALS

- steel wool (not the soapy kind)
- jar
- water
- vinegar
- bleach

STEPS

1. Place the steel wool into the jar then cover it with water.

2. Pour in a dash of vinegar and a dash of bleach.

3. Wait for a few hours, and watch the steel go rusty!

DID YOU KNOW?

Rust forms when iron is combined with oxygen and water. The vinegar strips any protective coating off the steel, and oxygen in the bleach combines with the iron in the steel. This makes the wet steel go rusty very quickly. If you wrap the steel around bulb of a thermometer, you should be able to see the temperature rise! This is because this chemical reaction gives off heat energy.