

Oxygen and Burning Adult Guidance

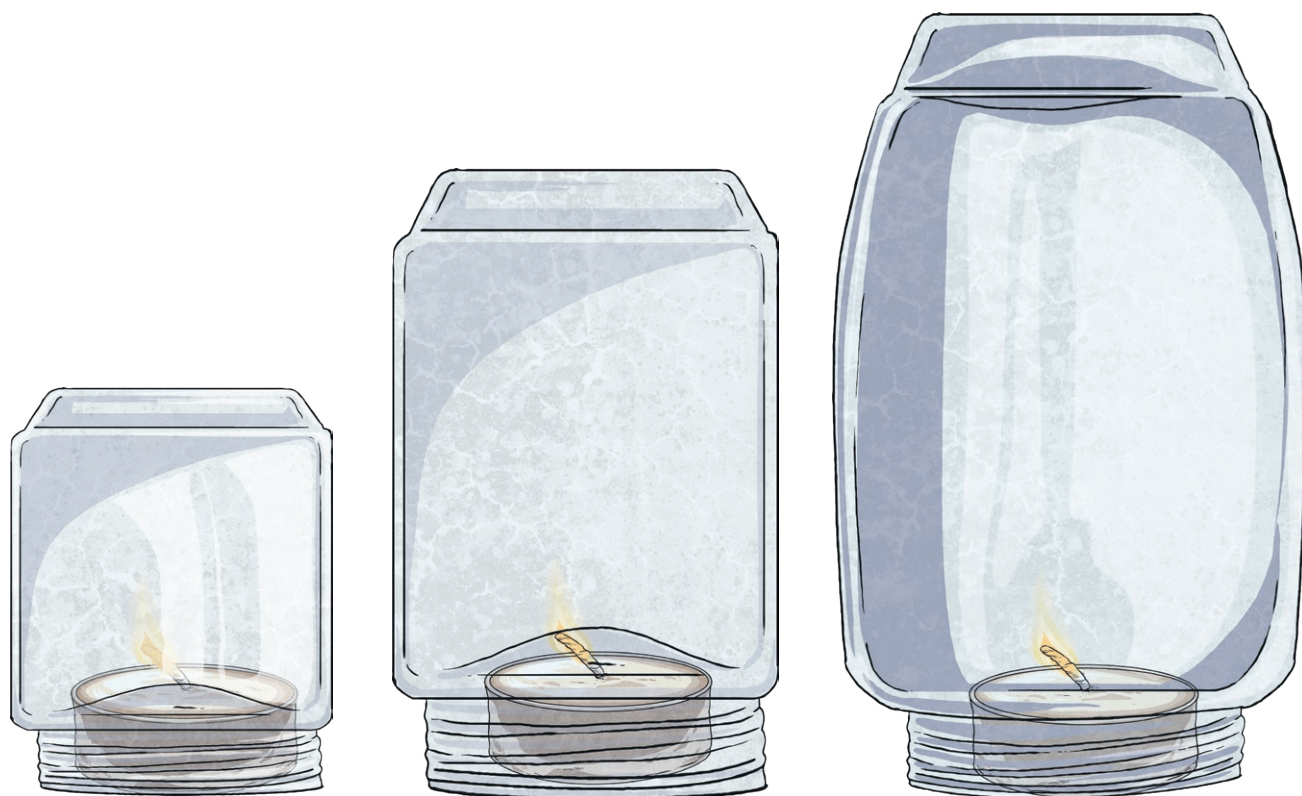
In this lesson, you will demonstrate an experiment to your class to look at how the amount of oxygen affects the length of time a flame will burn for.

It is suggested that this experiment is led by an adult for the purposes of safety.

Firstly, show the children a lit candle. Discuss how it is using oxygen to burn. Then, cover the candle with a glass. Explain that the flame will use up all the oxygen in the glass. Show children that the flame eventually goes out when there is no oxygen left in the glass.

Repeat the demonstration, this time timing how long it takes for the flame to go out.

Show the children the three jars or glasses of different sizes. These should be numbered from 1 to 3, with 1 being the smallest and 3 being the largest. Children predict how long it will take for the flame to go out when covered by each glass or jar.



Carry out the experiment by covering a lit candle with each glass or jar and timing how long it takes for each flame to go out.

Explain that the largest glass or jar contains the most oxygen, so the flame will burn for longer. The smallest glass or jar contains the least oxygen, so the flame will go out faster.