

DEMONSTRATIONS

Cobalt Pink and Blue

What did you see?

Did you know?

Cobalt and other metals in the middle of the periodic table are important in biology because they can have different amounts of positive charge, and can make different numbers of chemical bonds. In your body, *iron* is the metal that carries oxygen in your blood from your lungs to your muscles. Cobalt is used to help your body make blood cells. You only have a very small amount of cobalt in your body but without it you would die.

'Traffic Light' and the 'Blue Bottle' reactions

What did you see?

Did you know?

The amount of *oxygen* dissolved in solution changes the colour of the dye. Indigo carmine is used as a food colouring and a pH indicator. Doctors also use it to study kidney and bladder function - they inject the dye into the bloodstream and see how long it takes for the urine to turn green!