

UNIT 02 / 12 • LEARN & TRY

Exploring Substances: Acidic, Basic, and Neutral

Name: _____ Date: _____

Learn

Indicators change colour in acidic or basic conditions. Litmus is red in an acidic solution and blue in a basic solution; neutral conditions do not change either red or blue litmus in the usual school test. Neutralisation is a reaction between an acid and a base that can form salt and water. Never identify a substance by tasting it, and never mix household cleaners.

Worked example

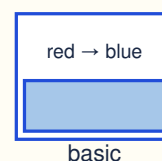
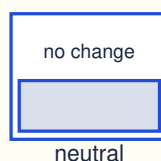
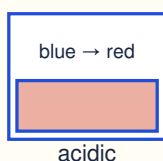
If blue litmus turns red in a sample, that is evidence that the sample is acidic.

1. What does blue litmus turning red suggest?

2. What does red litmus turning blue suggest?

3. Does a colourless liquid have to be neutral?

Litmus gives evidence about acidic or basic conditions



Words identify the changes as well as colours. Never taste test substances or mix household cleaners.