

Name _____

Exploring Familiar Acids and Bases: From Lemons to Soap

Short Answer Key

1. Citric acid is used as a food preservative and as a flavor enhancer in various foods and drinks.
2. Maintaining the pH balance in swimming pools is important to prevent skin and eye irritation for swimmers and to protect pool equipment from corrosion.
3. The primary function of sodium bicarbonate (baking soda) in baking is to act as a leavening agent, making baked goods rise.
4. One common base found in cleaning products is ammonia. It acts as a cleaning agent by cutting through tough stains and leaving surfaces clean.
5. The pH of a neutral substance is 7 because it falls in the middle of the pH scale, neither acidic nor basic.

