

Name _____

Acids and Bases: The Unsung Heroes of Everyday Life

Short Answer Key

1. Acids in household cleaners break down stains by chemically reacting with the stain's components, making it easier to remove.
2. Bases in toothpaste and mouthwash help remove plaque and stains from teeth and contribute to maintaining a healthy pH in the mouth.
3. Neutralization in chemical spill cleanup involves carefully adding an appropriate acid or base to the spill to counteract the hazardous substance, reducing its harmful effects.
4. Lemon juice is commonly used to flavor beverages. The acidity of the lemon juice enhances the overall taste by providing a refreshing and tangy flavor.
5. Regulating pH in bodily fluids is essential for enzyme function, cellular processes, and overall health. Deviations from the optimal pH range can lead to health problems.

