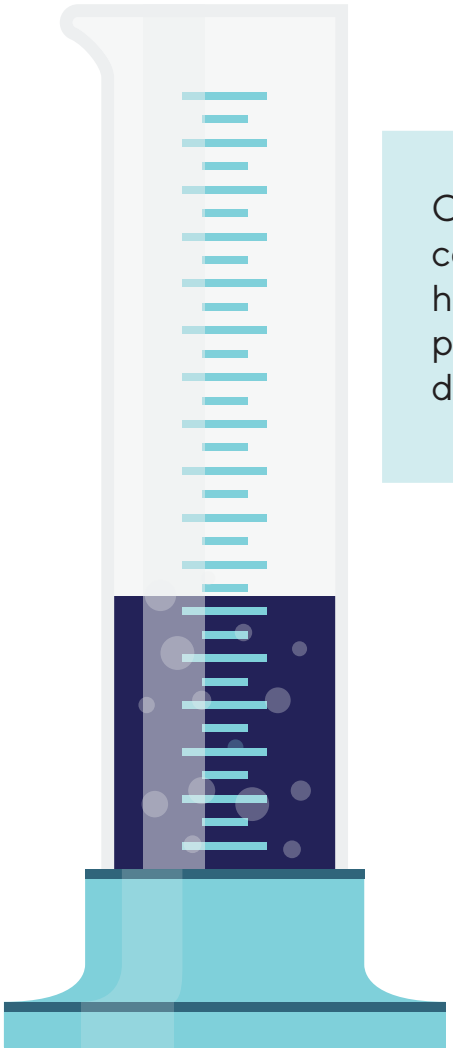
FLINN SCIENTIFIC

Chemical **kinetics**

Kinetics is the study of the rate (or speed) of a reaction and the factors that affect the rate. Chemical reactions occur as a result of collisions between molecules. Some reactions happen quickly, like the combustion of methanol, while others can take years, like the rusting of an iron nail.

A **catalyst** is a substance that increases the rate of a chemical reaction but is not consumed during the reaction.



Cylinder contains hydrogen peroxide and dish soap.

Hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) decomposes to water and oxygen gas, but it happens slowly.

A catalyst, **sodium iodide** (NaI), was added to the flask which sped up the reaction.