Tonight’s Demonstrations

1. “Gold” Pennies – Sometimes chasing rainbows doesn’t lead to a pot of gold, but we have a secret for you! You can make gold pennies by turning copper pennies silver by placing them in potassium hydroxide solution with zinc, then turning the silver pennies gold by gently heating them with a Bunsen burner making your own pot of gold.

2. Milk of Magnesia – Milk of Magnesia is an antacid used to treat stomach aches. With a few drops of universal indicator the color changes from milky white to purple. Adding an acid like lemon juice turns it yellow.

3. “Dragon’s Breath” – Tonight the dragons rumble and they spit fire. Discharging a fine powder out of a tube into a Bunsen burner ignites the powder into a plume of fire.

4. Nylon Rope – Nylon, it’s in your clothes, machinery, and carpets. Through the reaction of hexamethylenediamine solution and adipoyl chloride solution we pull out a rope made of nylon.

5. Solid Water – Turning water to wine is a nice trick but tonight we turn water solid. Adding sodium polyacrylate to water osmosis occurs; the salt absorbs the water and expands.

6. Elephant Toothpaste – We all know elephants have huge teeth, but just how do they clean them? Well tonight we’re going to make enough toothpaste for an elephant, with the reaction of hydrogen peroxide and iodide ions.

7. Money to Burn – We burn through money every day, tonight we’ll literally light money on fire but it won’t burn. A dollar bill is soaked in an alcohol and water solution before being ignited. The water absorbs into the dollar and absorbs the heat protecting it from the flames.

8. Rainbow Flames – Fires usually are orange or blue, in this demonstration a rainbow of colors is made by burning different salts in an alcohol flame.

9. Black Snake – St. Patrick is known to have cast out all the snakes in Ireland, well tonight we’re going to make one before your eyes. With the dehydration of sugar by sulfuric acid, causing the sugar to heat and decompose a black snake slithers out of the beaker.

10. Aladdin’s Lamp – The genie is coming out of the lamp with a smoky entrance. Catalytic decomposition of hydrogen peroxide releases steam giving the appearance of a genie’s lamp.

11. Levitating Magnet – Ever wished you can levitate off the ground, it would be a nice trick right? Well we can’t make you levitate but by super cooling a superconductor we can make it float in midair.

12. Magic Bottle – We bring to you a bottle with clear solution, inside a solution of oxidized glucose and reduced methylene blue. With a shake of the bottle we can reverse the reaction turning the solution blue.