Can you see that the bubbles pop as soon as I tried to touch them? That’s because when we touch a bubble with our dry hands, we break the bubble’s surface tension.

Our hands have a little bit of oil in them, and that keeps them nice and soft. But soap loves oil – that’s why we use it to clean dirty, oily dishes. So when a soap bubble lands on our oily hands, those soap molecules try to take the oil away. But this bursts the bubble.

So what can I use to try and help me catch a bubble without it bursting? I’m going to use a glove. Now let’s see what happens!

Wow! The glove is stopping the soapy bubble mixing with the oil on my hands, which means I can catch the bubble, and even bounce it! Wow!