

GROWING CRYSTALS

MATERIALS

- Clear Cup
- Elastic Band
- Paper Clip
- String
- Straw
- Salt
- Magnifying Glass
- Observation Log

Find at Home

- Warm Water
- Spoon



Be careful when handling hot water!

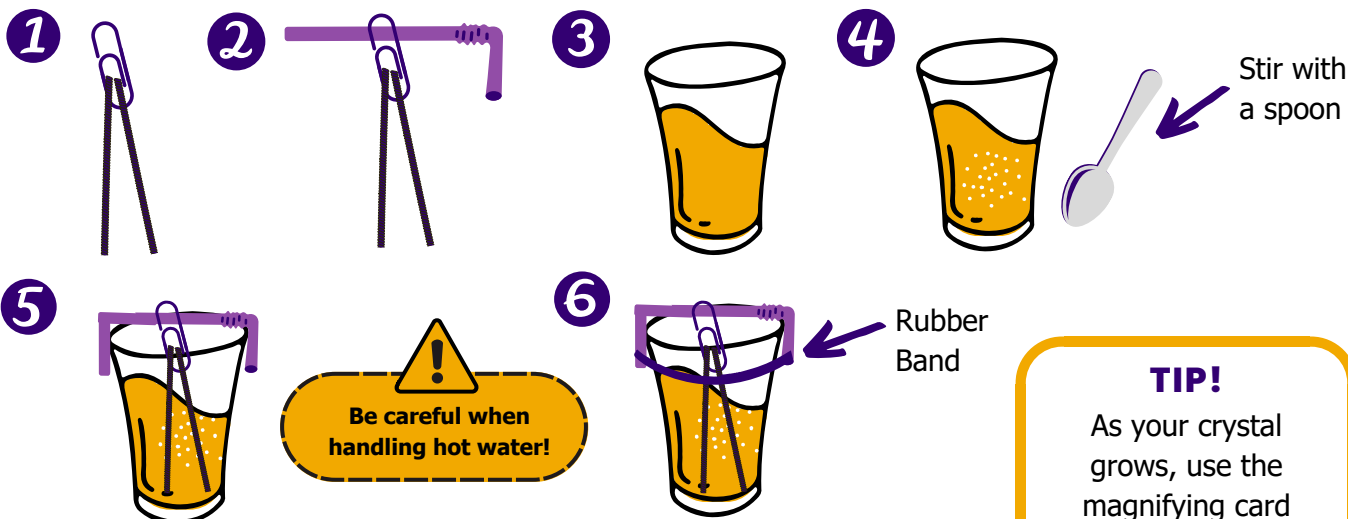


Watch this video to see how your crystals will grow!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tlIqaS6-yKc>

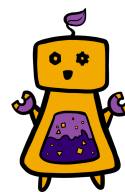
INSTRUCTIONS

1. Tie the middle of the string to the paper clip. The two ends should hang down.
2. Slide the paper clip onto the middle of the straw.
3. Pour some warm water into the cup until it is about $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
4. Add 5 spoonfuls of salt to the water and stir until the salt mostly disappears.
5. Bend the ends of the straw and place it on the cup.
6. Stretch the rubber band around the straw and cup.
7. Place the cup in a quiet place for a couple of days. Record what you see each day in your Observation Log.
8. Repeat the experiment with different amounts of salt.



TIP!

As your crystal grows, use the magnifying card to observe what you see.



KEEP IN MIND WHILE OBSERVING:

- What shapes do you see as the crystals form?
- Do all crystals have the same shape and structure?

Examples of shapes you might see in your crystals:



GROWING CRYSTALS

THE SCIENCE BEHIND IT ALL

The salt that we add to our food is made up of tiny particles called molecules. Solid salt forms a crystal because the molecules are arranged in a repeating pattern.

In this activity, the salt is dissolved in water to make a solution. When the water evaporates, salt crystals form.



EXAMPLES!

Other examples of crystals are sugar, snowflakes, and diamonds.



EXTENSION #1

Use your magnifying card to compare the salt and sugar crystals.

SALT

Drawing:

Observations:

SUGAR

Drawing:

Observations:

EXTENSION #2

Use your magnifying card to examine materials from nature (e.g. rocks, sand). Can you find any common shapes or patterns? Write or draw what you see.

Material:

Drawing:

Observations:

Natural Resource:

Drawing:

Observations:


STEM TO-GO ACTIVITY
GROWING CRYSTALS
OBSERVATION LOG

SCIENTIST NAME


DATE PREPARED

PREDICTIONS: (What I think the crystal will look like)


Date Observed:
Drawing: **Observations:**




Date Observed:
Drawing: **Observations:**




Date Observed:
Drawing: **Observations:**




Date Observed:
Drawing: **Observations:**



Date Observed:
Drawing: **Observations:**



Date Observed:
Drawing: **Observations:**



Definitions

Predictions: What do you think will happen in the future?
Observations: Record what you notice. (e.g. colour, length, shapes, patterns)



  
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