

DIY Salt Crystals

Equipment:

- A clean jar (Heat Proof if possible, if not, make sure the solution has cooled enough before pouring it into the jar)
- String
- A Pencil
- Water
- Salt
- Saucepan
- Food colouring (optional)

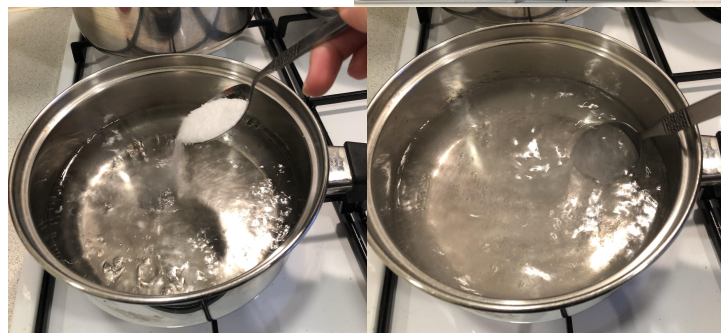


Method:

Place the water in the saucepan and bring as close to boiling as you can. Make sure to ask an adult for help when using the stove as this will be hot!

Start to add salt a spoonful at a time, making sure it disappears before adding the next

spoonful. Keep doing this until the salt stops dissolving. If you want to add food colouring, add a few drops and stir it in.



You can then pour the mix into the clean jar, this will still be hot so make sure to ask an adult for help

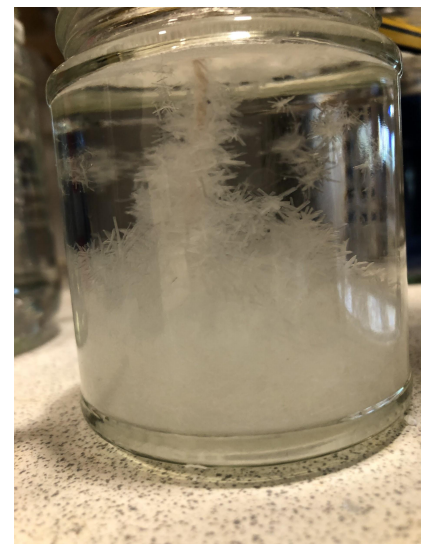
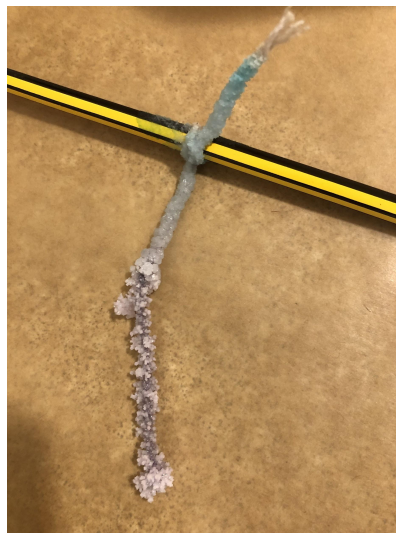
Tie the string around the middle of the pencil, leaving the end long enough to suspend in the jar but not quite touch the bottom

Then place the end of the sting in the jar, and balance the pencil on top, so the string is suspended in the water

Leave the jar in a safe place where it can't be disturbed for a few days, and watch your crystals grow!



These were done using purple food colouring and table salt



This was done using epsom salts



This was made using only table salt, although not quite enough was added so no crystals actually grew in the solution, only on the string sticking out.

Tips

- You can experiment using different types of salt, and compare the different crystals it makes (i.e. epsom salts, table salt, sea salt etc.)
- You can also try using pipe cleaners instead of string! These will allow you to make and grow different shapes.
- You could also experiment by leaving the crystals to grow in different places, for example in the sun, in the dark, or in a cooler or warmer place.