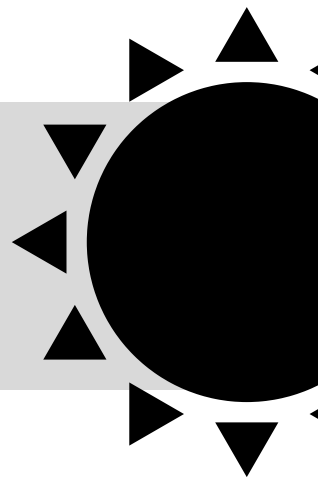


Looking for a fun, indoor STEAM-themed activity? Create crystal suncatchers with your kids!

Experiment with different ratios of water and salt and different lid sizes to see how the crystals may form differently. Alternatively, change it up by using thin pieces of colored tissue paper or add food coloring to the water-salt solution to see how the sun will shine through!

MATERIALS

- Empty Jar
- Water
- Epsom salt
- Measuring cup
- Microwave (optional)
- Spoon
- Clear Plastic Lids
- Tray
- Craft knife/Pin
- String



DIRECTIONS FOR CRYSTAL SUNCATCHERS

1. Heat 1 cup of water in jar in the microwave for 45 seconds. Alternatively use very hot tap water and skip the microwave.
2. Add 1 cup of Epsom salt to warm water. You'll be using a 1:1 ratio of water to Epsom salt for this project.
3. Stir the salt and water for 1-2 minutes to dissolve the salt.
4. Place several plastic lids on a flat-bottomed tray.
5. Pour some of the liquid from your jar into the plastic lids. Use just enough to cover the bottom of the lid. **DON'T OVERFILL.**
6. Place your lids in sunny location where they can remain undisturbed. Depending on how much liquid has been added it will take a few hours or a day to start crystallizing - be patient!
7. When the liquid has completely evaporated, your crystal suncatcher is ready! You will be able to see lovely crystal structures from both side of the lid.
8. **VERY** carefully poke a small hole in the edge of the lid and thread a piece of string through the hole. Tie in a knot and hang your suncatcher up!
9. **NOTE: Suncatchers will last about a week before evaporating & turning opaque. HANDLE GENTLY THEY ARE FRAGILE.**

Source: www.babbledabbledo.com/science-kids-crystal-suncatcher-craft/