

# Science experiment at home

Mezzo 3

## How to Make Rock Candy



Learn to make rock candy for an edible activity! Making rock candy is also part science experiment, allowing your kid hands-on learning with a few simple ingredients and kitchen tools.

This easy rock candy recipe lets your kid observe the crystallization process firsthand while making some pretty delicious treats. Sugar, water, and few more items found at home are all you need.

### Step 1 How to Make Rock Candy

Gather your ingredients and tools. All you need is water, sugar, a clothespin, a pot for boiling, and a few wooden sticks to grow rock candy crystals in your kitchen! You might pick out a food color dye, too. For the "sticks," you can pick up a few bamboo skewers from the grocery store.



*A few simple ingredients allow you to make rock candy at home.*

### Step 2

Bring two cups of water to a boil in a large pot on the stove. Next, stir in four cups of sugar. Boil and continue stirring until sugar appears dissolved. This

creates a supersaturated sugar solution. This is also the time to add in any flavor enhancements, such as vanilla or peppermint and so on. Allow the solution to cool for 15-20 minutes.



*Create your sugar solution.*

### **Step 3**

While waiting for the solution to cool, prepare your wooden sticks for growing the rock crystals. Wet the wooden sticks and roll them around in granulated sugar. Make sure you allow the sugared sticks to completely dry before continuing to Step 4. You'll need one stick per jar.



*Prepare sticks for the candy.*

### **Step 4**

Once the sugar solution is cool, add in food coloring to create rock candy of your preferred color. Leave this step out for clear-colored crystals.



*Add in a food color of your choice.*

## Step 5

Pour the cooled solution into a glass jar and insert the sugar-covered wooden stick into the center of the glass. Make sure that the stick is not touching any part of the jar. If it does, the candy crystals could get stuck to the bottom or to the sides. You can divide the sugar solution across several smaller jars or use one large mason jar, depending on how many sticks of rock candy you'd like to make.



*Pour the cooled solution into a jar for the final candy-making process.*

Once in place, secure the stick in place using a clothespin. Cover the top of the glass with a paper towel. You may have to poke a hole in the paper towel for the wooden stick to poke through.



*Let the candy crystals grow in a quiet, dark place*

## Step 6 in How to Make Rock Candy

Place the glass in a cool and quiet place. Loud noises and a lot of movement can disturb the crystal making process. Every day, the candy crystals will grow larger. They will reach their maximum growth potential by two weeks.

When you have a good amount of rock candy crystals, remove the stick and place it on a sheet of wax paper to dry...before eating!



*Final rock candy creation! Yum.*