

# Grow Your Own Crystals

## Gather these things:

- String (kite string works well)
- A pot (medium to large size)
- Candy thermometer
- Metal bowl or pan
- 2 cups water
- 5 cups sugar
- Spoon
- Foil

Stretch the string across the top of the metal pan or bowl. You will need to let it droop into the liquid, but don't let it touch the bottom. Tape the ends to the outside of the pan or bowl to keep it from touching the bottom.

Put water and sugar in the pot and stir until the sugar dissolves. Place candy thermometer in water and cook until the liquid reaches 250 degrees. DO NOT stir after you have started cooking the liquid.

Carefully pour the VERY hot liquid into the pan or bowl that you have prepared with the string. Make sure that the string is at least 3/4 of an inch under the surface of the liquid. Cover the pan or bowl with foil and don't disturb it for a week. In 7 days, lift out the string and it will be covered with Rock Candy.

**Make sure to have an adult's help during the cooking and while working with the hot liquid!**