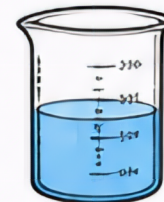




HOMESCHOOL SCIENCE EXPERIMENT



Testing whether different types of water affect crystal formation

Name: _____ Date: _____

QUESTION

Does the type of water used affect how crystals form?

HYPOTHESIS

I think _____
will happen because _____.

CONTROLLED VARIABLES

To be fair, keep these the same for each test:

- Same amount of water
- Same amount of Epsom salt
- Same size jar
- Same length of string
- Same place and temperature

MATERIALS

- 4 clear jars or cups (same size)
- Epsom salt (or crystal growing salt)
- Measuring cup
- Stirring spoon
- String
- Pencil or craft stick
- Labels or tape and marker

Types of water to test (choose 4):

- Tap water
- Distilled water
- Filtered water
- Bottled spring water
- Boiled and cooled tap water

PROCEDURE

1. Label each jar with the type of water you are using.
2. Measure 1 cup (240 mL) of each type of water and pour into each jar.
3. Add Epsom salt, 1 tablespoon at a time, stirring until no more salt will dissolve.
(The water should be saturated—some undissolved salt may remain.)
4. Tie a string to a pencil or craft stick. Hang the string in the jar so it does not touch the sides or bottom.
5. Place all jars in the same spot where they will not be disturbed.
6. Observe your crystals each day for 7 days. Do not move the strings.

RESULTS – Record your observations

Type of Water	Day 1 (What do you see?)	Day 3 (What do you see?)	Day 5 (What do you see?)	Day 7 (What do you see?)	Crystal Size (Small / Medium / Large)	Crystal Quality (Poor / Fair / Good / Excellent)
Tap Water						
Distilled Water						
Filtered Water						
Bottled Spring Water						
Boiled & Cooled Tap Water						

CONCLUSION

1. Which type of water produced the largest crystals? _____
2. Which type of water produced the best quality crystals? _____
3. Which type of water produced the smallest or no crystals? _____
4. What do your results suggest about how the type of water affects crystal formation?

5. If you did this experiment again, what would you do differently? _____



SCIENCE TIP: Be patient! Good crystals take time to grow.