

AVOID THE SUMMER SLIDE

CHECK OUT WORLD BOOK EBOOKS

FOR STUDENTS OF ALL AGES



TRY THIS!

This recipe uses very hot liquid. HAVE AN ADULT HELP YOU with it for safe and tasty fun!

ROCK CANDY

INGREDIENTS

- narrow jar or glass
- wooden skewer (or clean wooden chopstick)
- clothespin
- 1 cup water
- 2-3 cups sugar
- food coloring (optional)

STEPS

1. Clip the skewer into the middle of the clothespin. Then position the clothespin so that each end rests atop the rim of the glass and the skewer hangs down inside the glass. The bottom of the skewer should be about 1 inch (2.5 cm) from the bottom of the glass. If the skewer is too long, cut the bottom to this length with scissors. Remove the skewer and clothespin and put them aside.
2. HAVE AN ADULT...

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Activity

WHAT DO SEEDS NEED TO GROW?

Seeds will not grow into new plants unless they receive three things: water, warmth, and oxygen—all at the same time and in the correct amounts. You can prove this for yourself by carrying out this experiment.

DIRECTIONS

1. Number your jars 1, 2, 3, and 4. Lay the jars on their sides. Put two paper tissues into each jar. Use the spoon to sprinkle some seeds into Jar 1. Screw on the lid.
2. Put a little water into the other three jars to make the tissues damp, but not soaking wet.
3. Sprinkle some seeds on the damp tissues. Screw on the lids of jars 2 and 3. Put the steel wool into jar 4 and screw on the lid.

MATERIALS

- Self-adhesive labels
- Felt-tipped pen
- 8 paper tissues
- Small spoon
- Packet of seeds, such as grass, mustard, or lettuce
- 4 small jars with tight-fitting lids
- Some moist steel wool

Jar 2 is the refrigerator.

Jar 3: Look at your jars every two or three days, and keep a record of what happens to the seeds. Which ones are sprouting? Which ones are not? Why? Are all the jars getting equal amounts of water, warmth, and oxygen? After about a week, check your findings against those printed below.

Jar 1 had warmth and oxygen, but no water. Jar 2 had oxygen and water, but no warmth. Jar 4 had water and warmth, but no oxygen. The steel wool used up all the oxygen as it rusted. If you take the steel wool out of the jar, the seeds will soon grow.

The seeds in Jar 3 should have sprouted into tall, thin seedlings. So we know that the conditions were right in Jar 3. But none of the other seeds has germinated. So we know that the conditions were wrong in jars 1, 2, and 4.

The seeds in Jar 3 had warmth, water, and oxygen from the air. Jar 1 had warmth and oxygen, but no water. Jar 2 had oxygen and water, but no warmth. Jar 4 had water and warmth, but no oxygen.

Did you notice that the seeds don't need sunlight to grow? All your seeds started to grow in the dark. Each seed has its own food supply with which to start. When the plant grows bigger, it will also need sunlight to help it to make more food.

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It is summer. It is hot!

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