Science Plan

Salt crystal leaves



Equipment

1 box of salt
Pegs
Pipe cleaners or fall leaves
Jars

Method

You will use one pipe cleaner per leaf. Bend the pipe cleaners to look like various types of leaves. We made ours look like a Japanese maple, an oak leaf, and a holly bush leaf. Make sure to leave a long stem on each leaf so you can suspend the leaf inside the mason jar using a peg.

In a medium saucepot / kettle, heat about 2 1/2 cups of water per mason jar. We made three jars and used about six cups of water. (can also use microwave)

Add Salt Water - For three to four jars, you will use an entire container of salt. The key to getting this to work properly is to add TONS of salt. The water must be over-saturated with salt.

Boil the water, then add the salt once you turn off the heat. Stir the salt into the mixture until it won't dissolve any more and you have salt grains at the bottom of the pot. You'll know you have enough salt when it starts to form a sheet of salt on the top of the water.

Pour the hot water into the mason jars.

Place one leaf inside each jar. Make sure the leaves are suspended in the center of the jar and don't touch the sides or bottom of the jar, by using a peg.