



Science Fair Projects

Grades 6 to 8

Stalactites

Purpose

To naturally grow stalactites.

Materials

Water, two tiny nails, eighteen inches of string, two one-quart milk bottles, and Epsom salts.

Experiment

Cut the tops off of the two milk containers. Put fifteen teaspoons of Epsom salts and two cups of warm water into each carton. Mix well. Soak the string in one of the containers. Tie a nail to each end of the string as a weight. Hang one end of the string in each of the cartons, which should be placed about a foot apart.

Store the cartons somewhere that they will not be disturbed for a couple of weeks. What's forming on the string? ***Are there differences in formation time among stalactites?*