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Do All Household Substances Form Crystals?

The purpose of this project was to see if some of the most popular household substances form crystals, if any. For this experiment, I took three household substances and made them into a saturated substance to see if they would form crystals over time. My hypothesis was, if I use these substances, could I form something out of it.

First, I filled three glasses with hot water. I had help to have the water saturated with salt, sugar, and some alum. Next, I made circles out pipe cleaners and submerged them into the water with yarn. I used color-coding labels to tell the glasses apart. Finally, I let them sit for nine days.

The first few days of the experiment were exciting. You could barely tell that there were crystals. The next days, salt and sugar had no crystals, but alum was doing well. The last days of the experiment had everyone on edge to see if sugar and salt would grow any crystals. Sugar had none and salt was finally growing. There was no way to tell exactly how many crystals there were so I measured on a scale of 1 to 10 to judge crystal growth on a chart.

These findings led me to believe that the fastest growing substance was the alum. The salt didn't grow that fast but grew more. Sugar didn't grow at all.