

Moon Rocks



These moon rocks are really easy to make and the mixture feels lovely in your hands. (Things can get a bit messy so aprons might be needed!) Plus there is the fun of squirting vinegar on the dried rocks and watching them fizz up.

Equipment

Bicarbonate of soda (approx 300g for 5 rocks)
Glitter gel (we used silver)
Black poster paint
Water
Bowls or buckets
Vinegar
Squirt bottles, syringes or pipettes

Method

1. Put 200g of bicarbonate of soda in a bowl or bucket.
2. Add 2 big squirts of glitter gel.
3. Add 1 small squirt of poster paint.
4. Slowly add small amounts of water while mixing the ingredients together. You are aiming for more of a breadcrumb texture than putty. If the mix is too wet add in another 50-100g bicarb.
5. You should now have a substance which is slightly crumbly but easy to mould. It feels lovely in your hands, so the children will probably want to make lots of shapes.
6. Leave the rocks to dry as much as possible. Overnight is ideal, but an hour or so is fine. (We went and washed hands at this point, and found that everything washed off really easily.)
7. When the rocks are dry, put some vinegar in a squirt bottle or pipette/syringe, and let the children experiment with squirting it onto the rocks. You get great fizzing and bubbling. We had fun breaking some of the rocks open and squirting the vinegar inside.

NB: Finding bicarbonate of soda in large quantities can be tricky in this country. The cheapest we found in supermarkets was Aldi at 65p for 200g. Online we found 2Kg for £5.10, see: <http://www.intralabs.co.uk/sodium-bicarbonate/2kg-sodium-bicarbonate.html>

Areas of learning and development:

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