



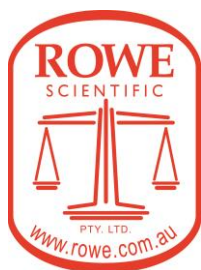
Prize Winner

Crystal Investigation

Year 5-6

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Coloured Crystals

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Ellie Doudle and Imogen Aplin

Question: Does the food colouring affect the clarity, size, shape, and appeal of the crystals?

Hypothesis: We think that the colour of a crystal will make it more appealing and more transparent but it will not affect how it grows.

Equipment: while we were making our crystals we used

Gloves

Aprons

Glasses

Beakers

Spatula

Kettle

Scales

Stirring rod

Tweezers

measuring cylinder

Method:

1. Measure the potash alum and Boiling water
2. Mix the potash alum and colour into boiled water, mixed till dissolved
3. Filter into beaker and leave over night
4. Use tweezers and get out as many seeds
5. Filter the remainder of the solution into a beaker

6. Find the most symmetrical seeds and suspend in the filtered solution
7. Leave to grow for 10 weeks for a good crystal (If seeds at the bottom grow filter them out)

Ingredients:

- 30g of potash alum x4
- 200ml of hot water x4
- Natural food colouring x25 drops (purple)
- Artificial food colouring x25 drops (red and blue)

Problems: We did not make our observations very clear resulting in it being hard to refer to, another problem is that we had to restart our crystal growing on the 31/5 because we were not happy with the clarity of the crystals.

Solutions to problems: To resolve the first problem, we rewrote and made the observations clearer. To resolve the second one, we worked quickly but still accurately.

Conclusion

In conclusion the colour of a crystal does not affect the crystals size, clarity, and appeal but does not really affect the shape, but the natural food colour affected the clarity, size, shape, and appeal

