



Try This **EXPERIMENT** @ Home!

The Science of Sweets

COMMON SWEETS CAN BE USED TO EXPLORE A NUMBER OF PROPERTIES ASSOCIATED WITH EVERYDAY SUBSTANCES. THIS SIMPLE SCIENCE ACTIVITY SHOWS HOW SCIENCE IS INVOLVED IN EVEN THE SIMPLEST THINGS THAT WE TAKE FOR GRANTED.

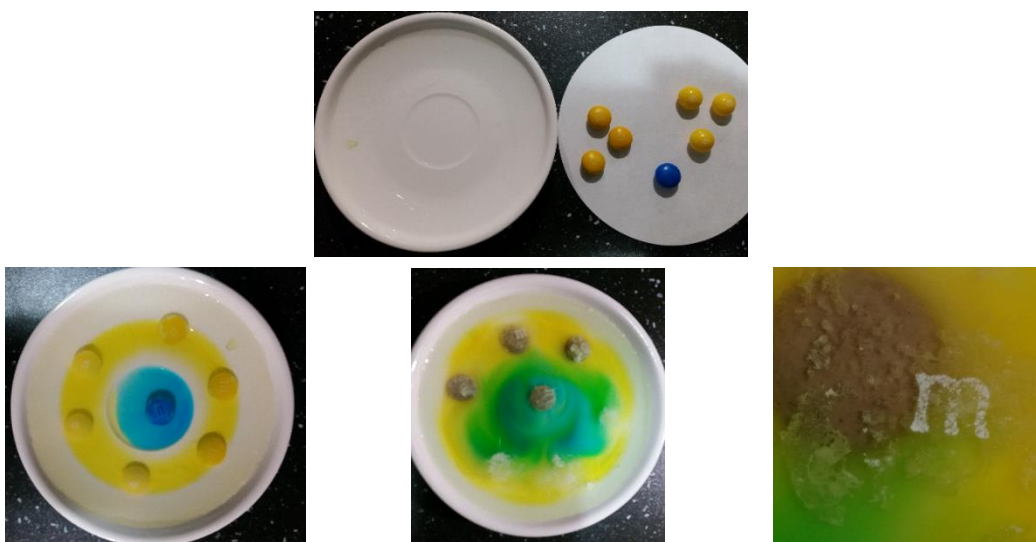
M & M & S's

Required:

- A pack of M & M's or Skittles (or BOTH!)
- A plastic plate or bowl
- Water

Place a couple of M & M's or Skittles with the letter facing up into the bowl / plate of water. After a minute or two you will start to notice that the sugar coating has begun to dissolve and some food colouring is dispersing into the water. If you look closely, you'll also notice that the letters (M or S) have come free from the lolly and are floating on the surface of the water.

THE SCIENCE INVOLVED: The white letters on M&Ms and Skittles are printed with edible ink that doesn't dissolve in water. When the rest of the candy shell dissolves, the letters peel off and float. Some of the letters break into pieces, but a few should survive intact.



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