

# DIY Grow Your Own Crystals

by Chloe Hayward



Taking inspiration from art, work with an adult to grow your own crystals! Inspired by artist Michael Demps's artwork *Untitled: Dehiscent Echo* (2017), use everyday household materials to create a colorful sparkling, sculpture!

## Materials



Pipe cleaner



Borax



String



Pencil



7 cups  
of water



Food  
coloring



Aluminum  
foil



Pot



Large glass  
container/jar



### Step 1

Fill a large pot with the water, and with the help of an adult, bring it to a gentle boil.



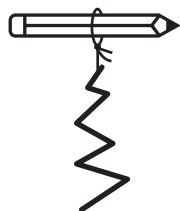
### Step 2

Add borax by the cup and stir, continuing to add it until the water stays cloudy.



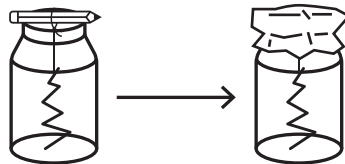
### Step 3

Add food coloring to the cloudy water to give your crystals color. Transfer the solution to a large glass jar or container.



### Step 4

Take your pipe cleaner and create a twisted coil. Attach the coil to your string and then tie the string to your pencil.



### Step 5

Dip your pipe cleaner in the colored solution a few times before setting it down inside. Cover the solution with foil overnight. You will have crystals the next day!

Michael Demps  
*Untitled: Dehiscent Echo*  
(installation view), 2017  
Courtesy the artist  
Photo: Adam Reich