

# Crystal Stencil Stars

Did you know that if you add a teaspoonful of table salt to a glass of water it will dissolve, but if you add Epsom salts to a glass of water they will also dissolve *and* can be used to create sparkling stars!

## **What you need:**

Epsom salts  
Water  
Small bowl  
Sponge  
Black cardboard  
Black paper  
Scissors  
Plastic cup  
Tablespoon measure  
Stirrer  
Food colouring (optional)  
White paper (optional)

## **What to do:**

- 1) Using the stars below as a template, draw stars onto the black cardboard.
- 2) Poke a hole through the middle of the star outline and carefully cut out the middle of your star—thus creating your template.
- 3) Pour 3 tablespoonfuls of very warm water into the plastic cup.
- 4) Add 1 tablespoonful of Epsom salts and stir until dissolved then continue to add 1 tablespoonful of Epsom salts at a time until no more dissolves and the mixture becomes the consistency of glue.
- 5) Pour the solution into the small bowl.
- 6) Lay the template flat on the black paper.
- 7) Dip the sponge into the solution and dab onto the template.
- 8) Carefully lift the template to reveal your star.
- 9) Repeat steps 6 to 8 to produce a number of stars.
- 10) Allow to dry for 15 minutes and observe the crystal star patterns.
- 11) For something different, add some food colouring to the mixture to produce coloured stars on white paper, following steps 6 to 8.
- 12) Once you've finished with the mixture, make sure you pour it down the drain and clean all utensils properly.

