

NB: This experiment must have adult supervision!

Fun Science: Edible Rock Cycle

There are three different types of rocks: **Sedimentary, Metamorphic and Igneous**. This experiment uses sweets to demonstrate how the different types of rock are formed and what they look like.

You will need:

Aluminium foil

Starburst sweet x 9 (a range of colours is good)

Hot plate/similar

Method:

- Unwrap 3 -4 different colour starburst and chop each into smaller squares (sediment).
- **Sedimentary Rock- Sedimentary rocks are formed by pressure over time.**
Mix up the different colours and push/squeeze them together (make it compact compact). You should have one ball /rock this is sedimentary rock.
- **Metamorphic rocks are formed by heat and pressure.**
Take your sedimentary rock and place it in a plastic ziplock bag. Firmly rub it between your hands to warm. You could place it near a radiator or dip it in warm water to speed up the warming. Do not place it on direct heat or completely melt it.
Now apply **pressure**! stand on it, push down with books or a rolling pin. Take it out fold it and apply more pressure. Now you have metamorphic rock! The colours have mixed and blended.
- **Igneous rock- needs extreme heat to melt . It then cools and hardens**
Put the metamorphic rock onto foil (shape the foil so it has sides)
You must have an adult to supervise and help with this step.
Place the rock in the foil and carefully put it onto a hotplate or pan. Use tongs.
The metamorphic rock is now melting together.
Do not touch as it is extremely hot and may bubble like a volcano!
Remove from the heat and allow the 'rock' to cool. Once it has cooled, open it up and you should find all the colours have completely mixed and hardened. There are no clearly visible layers. This is igneous rock!

There is a video clip on the PPT showing these instructions step by step: