

Skittles Rainbow: A Sweet Science Experiment!

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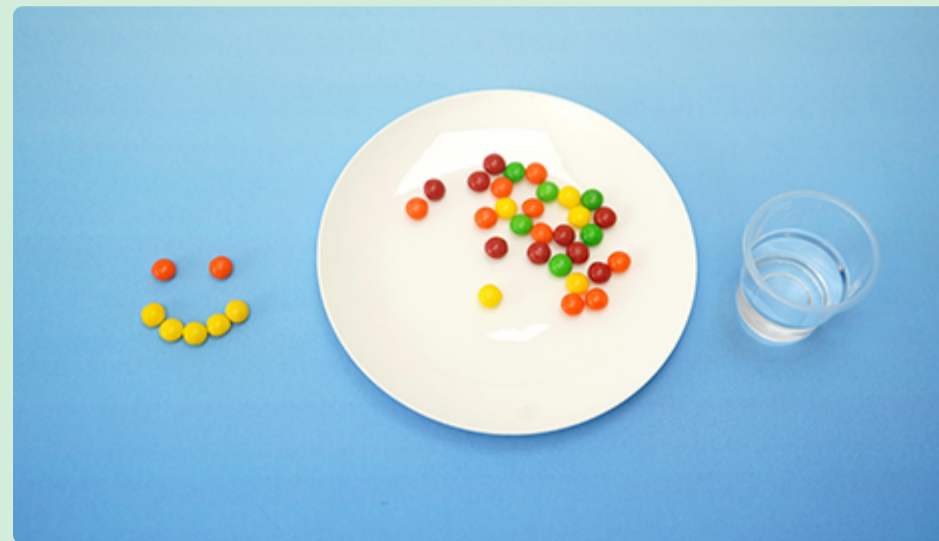


Did you ever think that the rainbow sweets children love could also be used for experiments? Yes! This is a slightly sweet science experiment. Children will learn about colour dissolution, diffusion, mixing, and the formation of symmetrical patterns within a beautiful rainbow design.

- Age: 3-5
- Time: Less than 30 minutes
- Level: Messy

Materials Needed:

Plate
Skittles Rainbow Sweets
Water



Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. Arrange the Skittles in a circle on the plate, alternating colours.



2. Slowly pour water into the centre of the plate until it covers about half of the Skittles. Observe what happens.



The Science Behind It:

The colouring of the Skittles is soluble in water. When the Skittles come into contact with water, their colouring begins to dissolve in the water. The water's density increases and diffuses towards areas of lower density. When the colouring from one Skittle meets the colouring from another Skittle, their colours don't mix because they have similar densities. Instead, the two colours diffuse towards the centre of the plate where the density is lower, forming a rainbow pattern. The overall effect looks like a Ferris wheel, which is quite beautiful.