

FROST ON A CAN

You'll need

A clean empty can

Ice

Water

Salt

Spoon



Instructions

Fill the tin can with ice.

Add water until it reaches the top.

Drop in about 3 tablespoons of salt.

Wait and watch the frost form. If it doesn't work, add more salt and ice.

Why does it work?

Initially the temperature of the icy water in the can will be around the freezing point of water 0°C . However, for frost to form it needs to be even colder. Salt lowers the freezing point of ice, making the ice melt. To do this it draws heat from the surroundings (in this case the tin can). The salt reduces the temperature on the surface of the can to below 0°C which makes the water vapour in the air condense and freeze on the surface!!

Science Sparks TM

Adult supervision required. You are responsible for your own safety.

www.sciencesparks.com

