

Wax in STEM and Space

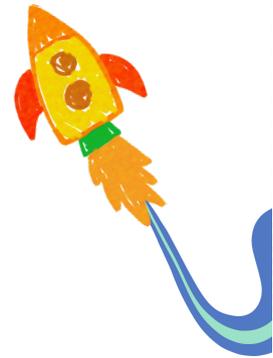
What is Wax?



Wax is a soft, bendable material. It can melt when it gets hot and harden when it cools. Wax comes from bees, plants, and even the earth. Farmers and beekeepers help produce wax through crops and honeybees. People use wax to make everyday things like candles, crayons, and even coatings that protect fruits and vegetables.

Wax in STEM

Scientists use wax to make models. Engineers use wax to test shapes before building real things.



NASA is curious about wax in space!

- Scientists use it to learn how energy and materials work far away from Earth.
- NASA sometimes uses wax inside spacecraft to help keep them the right temperature during missions.
- They even tried using wax as rocket fuel to make space travel safer!

Learn more about wax with this investigation:

Wax and Water – Do they Mix?

Goal: Learn about how wax and water interact.

- Materials: Crayon shavings, a clear cup of water, spoon.
- Steps: Sprinkle crayon shavings into water. Stir gently.
- Observation: Wax floats and doesn't mix with water.
- Lesson: Wax is hydrophobic (doesn't like water), just like oils from plants.

Additional Learning Activity

Here is a great lesson you can do with crayons (or other art materials) to learn more about our world and space!



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