# United Art Education®

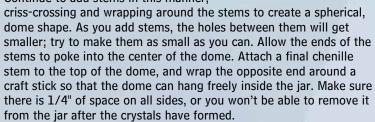
## **Realistic Geode**

### **Supplies Needed**

- Self-Hardening Clay
- Jumbo Chenille Stems
- Liquid Watercolors
- Glass Jar (with a 3" or larger opening)
- Borax & Water
- Scissors
- Measuring Cups
- Stove or Microwave
- Craft Sticks
- Acrylic Paint & Brushes



Using a white chenille stem, create a circular loop that measures at least 1/4" smaller than the opening of the glass jar and twist to secure. Attach a second stem to the loop, shape into a half-circle, and attach to the other side of the loop. Continue to add stems in this manner,



To see this step in real time, watch our video on YouTube.





#### Step 2

Boil 4 cups of water and pour into the jar, leaving a little bit of room at the top. Measure 1 cup of borax. Add a little bit of the borax to the hot water and stir to dissolve. Continue adding a small amount of borax at a time, stirring as you go. Once the solution becomes supersaturated, the borax will stop dissolving and no more borax is needed.





#### Step 3

To dye your crystal, choose a color of Handy Art Washable Liquid Watercolors. Add 3 tablespoons of liquid for lighter colors; 6 tablespoons for darker colors. The crystal will dry lighter than the color of the water. You can mix two or more colors together to create your own custom hues. Place the chenille stem dome into the solution, letting the craft stick balance on the jar opening.



#### Step 4

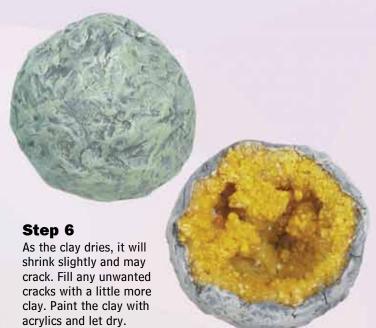
DO NOT move the jar, as this will hinder crystal formation. Wait 12 to 24 hours before removing the dome. After removing the dome, cut off the hanging stem.

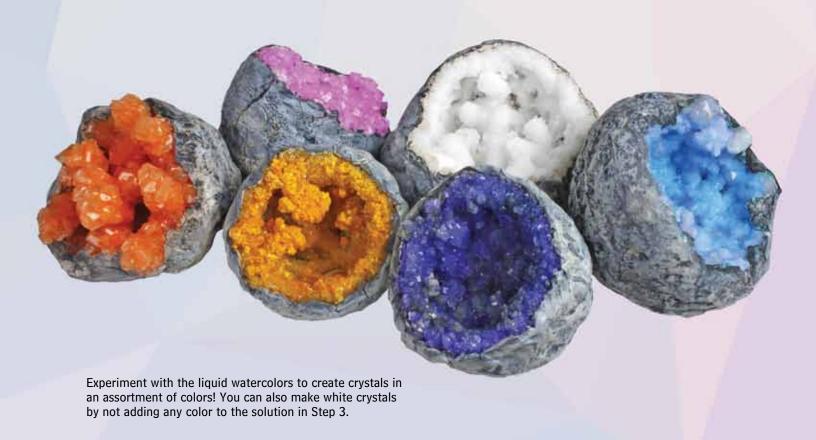
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#### Step 5

Using self-hardening clay, create a 1/4" thick slab, roughly the same size as the dome, and attach it to the outside of the dome. Take a small rock and press it into the clay several times to create a realistic rock texture. Allow the clay to dry overnight.





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