



## Making Candles

Candles are a source of power, a source of heat and an attractive decoration. Candles can be made easily with recycled containers and ingredients from the local environment. Candles should always be made with adult supervision in a safe and clean environment.

### Objectives:

- Teacher will make candles using available materials from the environment
- Pupils will gain experience in making candles made from local materials in the environment

### Materials:

- old candles
- paraffin wax
- cotton string
- old pan or coffee can
- medium-size pan
- cooker
- cardboard juice container, cardboard milk container, cardboard molasses container or any other small cardboard container

### Directions:

1. Place cardboard container on a flat surface.
2. Cut a piece of string about 12 cm.
3. Get one old candle.
4. Attach the string to the old candle by wrapping it from bottom to top. This will be the wick for the candle.
5. Heat the bottom of the old candle.
6. Place the old candle at the bottom of the container making sure it sticks.
7. Place old candles or paraffin wax in an old coffee can or old metal pot.
8. Get a medium size pan; fill half full of water.
9. Put pot on cooker until water is warm.
10. Set coffee can or metal pot into larger pot.
11. Watch while the wax melts.
12. Pour warm wax into cardboard container making sure wick is showing through top.
13. Let candle cool and set for 6 to 8 hours.
14. Peel away the cardboard container.
15. Cut the wick so it about 1 cm in length.

### Variations:

- Using different colors make a striped candle by letting layer of different color harden before adding the next layer.
- Using sand, make an indentation in the sand, pour in melted wax.
- Using dried leaves, flowers or shells make a nature candle by putting layers on the sides, then pouring in the layers of wax.

