Make It! Glass

What’s the Activity?
Students will simulate glass making with a sugar mixture and have the opportunity to observe that heat and energy are required to make glass. Since ancient times, glass has been manufactured by heating a sand/lime/soda mixture, and then slowly cooling it.

Materials
• 2 cups sugar
• 1/3 cup light corn syrup
• 1/3 cup water
• 2 tsp. vinegar
• Nonstick cooking spray
• Electric frying pan or hot plate and pan
• Sheet of glass
• Candy thermometer

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Directions
Combine ingredients and cook to hard crack stage on thermometer (300˚ F), while stirring vigorously. Carefully pour the mixture onto the sheet of glass coated lightly with non-stick spray. If the glass is small enough, set it inside a cookie sheet to prevent runover. Allow it to cool about 15 minutes. Then hold up the two sheets of glass so students can see through them.

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