

## Glow-in-the-Dark Jelly

On SCOPE's Science at Night episode, Will made some glow-in-the-dark jelly. Here's how you can try it at home!



### What you need:

- Black light-bulb
- Tonic water
- Tap water
- Jelly crystals
- Saucepan
- Bowl

### What to do:

1. Set up the black-light in a dark place.
2. Look at the tap water and tonic water under the light.  
*What is the difference?*
3. Add three and a half cups of tonic water to a saucepan, and ask an adult to bring it to the boil.
4. Add the jelly crystals and stir until they have dissolved.
5. Pour the mixture into a suitable bowl, and put it in the fridge for about 6 hours.
6. When it's ready, look at the jelly under the black light.
7. Enjoy eating your creepy jelly!



### What's happening:

The main flavouring ingredient in tonic water is quinine. Quinine is a chemical that fluoresces (or glows) under ultraviolet light because of its chemical structure. It will do this outside in the sun as well, since there's ultraviolet light in sunlight, but the effect is much more obvious in the dark. When you make jelly with quinine in it, it will glow as well.

Other things you might like to experiment with under a black-light are dishwashing liquid (it fluoresces to make your plates seem extra shiny) and sunscreen (it absorbs ultraviolet light to stop you getting sunburnt, so it seems totally black under a black-light).