

Fun Facts about Borax Crystals

1. Borax is actually Sodium Tetraborate.
2. The first Borax came from the dry lake deposits in Tibet, China.
3. Hot water can hold more dissolved borax than cold water. That's why we use boiling water to make borax crystals.
4. As the borax/water mixture cools, the water molecules slow down and move closer together. As a result, there is less space in the solution for the dissolved borax. This process is called precipitation. It is what makes the formation of crystals.
5. Borax crystals occur as tall or stubby prismatic crystals.
6. Borax is classified as sedimentary rock.

Definitions

Geode: a rock containing a cavity lined with crystals or other mineral matter.

Mineral: a solid inorganic substance of natural occurrence.

Precipitate: to cause (something solid) to become separated from a liquid especially by a chemical process

Evaporate: to change from a liquid into a gas (what happens to the water when it is boiled—steam)

Sedimentary: formed by or from deposits of sediment

Saturate: to treat, furnish, or charge with something to the point where no more can be absorbed, dissolved, or retained

Crystallization: to cause to form crystals