



FIREWORK CANDY AND PIRATE VISION (A NIGHT TIME ACTIVITY)

ITEMS NEEDED:

- Bag of Wint-o-green mints (has to be this type!)
- Matches or a lighter (must have an adult help!)

1

When it is dark outside, find a friend and both of you take a mint. Stand opposite each other and chew the mint with your mouth open. You should see blue sparks from the mint as you chew!

WHY DOES IT WORK?!

Ingredients in the mint absorb ultraviolet light when crushed and re-emit as blue light that looks like sparks!



2

Have an adult hold the match or flame in-front of them. Step back and cover one eye with your hand, with the other eye, look at the flame for 10 seconds. When you get to 10, uncover your eye but close the eye you had open. Look around, you should be able to see in the dark! This is why pirates used to wear eye patches, so they could see below decks quickly if they went from outside to inside during the day!

WHY DOES IT WORK?!

The eye will begin to dilate in the dark but it can take some time before you can see properly in the dark. This is due to the Rhodopsin in your eye which is sensitive to light. By covering your eye, it allows the process in the covered eye to be ahead of the one looking at the light, and it seems like you have night vision.

