

THE LAB

Three things to make and do



1 Make puffed rice aliens

Celebrate visitors from space by whipping up some out-of-this-world treats.

What you need

Makes eight rectangles

- 60g **butter**
- 440g white marshmallows
- 180g puffed rice
- 200g white **chocolate**
- Green food colouring
- Black icing pen
- 16 sweetie eyes
- Pan
- Spatula
- 20cm silicone cake tray
- Knife (oiled)
- Microwaveable jug

Allergy warning!

Ingredients in **bold** are allergens (substances that cause allergic reactions). Learn more at tinyurl.com/SN-allergy

Instructions

- 1 Ask an adult to help you melt the butter in a pan. Add the marshmallows to the pan and slowly melt and mix together with the butter.
- 2 Once everything has melted, take the pan off the heat and add your puffed rice. Use a spatula to stir and make sure all of the puffed rice is coated in the marshmallow mixture.
- 3 Spoon the marshmallow and puffed rice into a silicone cake tray. Push down gently using a spatula to pack it in. Place the tray in the fridge and leave to cool for about 30 minutes.
- 4 Tip the solid shape out of the tray and, using an oiled knife (to stop the sticky mixture sticking), cut it into eight rectangle shapes. Pop them back into the fridge and leave to set while you make your alien decorations.
- 5 Break up pieces of white chocolate and pop them in a microwaveable jug. Microwave the white chocolate for 30 seconds and then stir it. Continue doing this until all the white chocolate has melted.
- 6 Add a few drops of green food colouring and stir. Dip the top of the marshmallow rectangles into the green chocolate. Leave to set in the fridge, and then decorate with sweetie eyes and icing.

Use the icing pen to give your aliens different expressions.



How does it work?

Marshmallows are made of a puffed mixture of sugar, corn syrup and gelatin, which traps air inside it. When you heat them, the sugar melts and the air escapes. This leaves you with a sticky mixture, which binds the puffed rice together and gives a chewy texture. You can make these treats to celebrate World UFO Day on 2 July. This marks the day in 1947 when some people think an alien spaceship crash-landed near Roswell, in the US. On World UFO Day lots of people celebrate by looking out for unidentified flying objects in the sky.

RICHARD BUTCHER - REX SHUTTERSTOCK