

## What is a mortar and pestle?

“What is this?” Tim asked his grandfather.

“It’s a crystal.” Answered his grandfather.

“What is this?” asked Tim again to some other object.

Tim was amazed at all the really nice things he was finding at this new age store that they were in. There were things that shinned and things that was mystic, just things of all kinds. Tim wanted to know what each and everything was.

The pair spent around an hour in this store and Tim’s grandfather was so tired of answering all of Tim’s questions.

The very last question that his father asked him was, guess what it was. It was “What is this?”.

Tim’s grandfather looked at him and with a sigh and said “That is a mortar and pestle set.”

In the car, Tim’s grandfather asked him if he had a good time.

“Oh, yes,” exclaimed Tim, “I loved the store and really can’t wait until the next time we go there. You are going to take me back, aren’t you?”

Tim’s grandfather gave him a look, you know the one where your head tilts. “Yes, we will be going back.” “What was your favorite part of the trip?”

“Oh, there was a lot of things I really liked, but I liked the mortar and pestle the best.” Stated Tim. “What is that used for it sure looked funny.”

“That is used to smash up herbs, leaves, and other things so they can be used in potions, medicines, and spells.” Was the answer Tim got from his grandfather.

Activity:

- Go to the internet and pull up some pictures of the mortar and pestle sets.
- Have your child pick out the one that they like the best.
- Read to them again what the definition was that Tim’s grandfather gave him.
- Blow up the image they chose and ask them how they think it works. Clarify how it works and explain to them what each part’s name is and what it is used for. If you have a set of your own allow them to use it, even if it is with a little household herbs.

***\*Ask them to explain to you with the one you provided or the one on line how it works. Make sure they understand before you are finished.***