



Cornstarch Super Slime

Simple STEM Activities You Can Do at Home

Purpose:	The purpose of this activity is for students to investigate and explain the physical properties of Cornstarch Super Slime.
Standard:	<p>S2P1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the properties of matter and changes that occur in objects.</p> <p>a. Ask questions to describe and classify different objects according to their physical properties.</p> <p>S5P1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to explain the differences between a physical change and a chemical change.</p> <p>a. Plan and carry out investigations of physical changes by manipulating, separating and mixing dry and liquid materials.</p> <p>S8P1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the structure and properties of matter.</p> <p>a. Develop and use a model to compare and contrast pure substances (elements and compounds) and mixtures.</p>
Materials:	Cornstarch, water, spoon, food coloring, assorted objects to add to slime.
Procedures:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add 1 cup cornstarch to a bowl. 2. Measure ½ cup water and add 5-6 drops food coloring if desired. 3. Add the water little by little to the cornstarch and mix with your fingers. It is difficult to mix so keep at it. 4. Observe the properties (features) of your cornstarch slime as you mix it in your hands. Write a list of words that describe it. 5. Mold the slime into a ball by applying pressure and observe. 6. Remove the pressure and observe. Try playing catch with a piece. 7. Add some items to your slime and observe. 8. Explain why you think the Cornstarch Slime has different properties when you put pressure on it than it does when you let it go.
Science Behind It:	Cornstarch Super Slime, sometimes called Oobleck, is a simple mixture of two substances. This mixture is unusual and super fun because sometimes it acts like a liquid and sometimes it acts like a solid . When you put pressure (or force) on it by poking it or grabbing it into a ball, it acts like a solid and the mixture maintains its shape. But, as soon as you remove the pressure, the mixture loses its shape and starts to flow like a liquid. This happens because when the cornstarch particles are put under pressure they trap the water molecules between them temporarily turning the mixture into solid-like material. Remove the pressure, and the melting begins. Kids can have tons of fun exploring different ways that they can get their slime to act like a liquid or solid.
Questions to Ask:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What words can be used to describe the properties cornstarch slime? 2. What are some other things you could do to show its coolness?