



Slime

Slime demonstrates the principle of a chemical reaction – two substances combining to form something new, which has properties different from those of the ingredients. Chemical Engineers manipulate chemical reactions and processes to create useful new substances.

"Slime" is a special type of material called a polymer. Polymers are things that are made up of long twisty molecules (small little bits). Because the molecules are long and twisty, they can get tangled together. This is why they seem solid if we hit them or pull quickly. If we try to move them more slowly (pouring, etc.) the molecules have time to slide over each other and become untangled.

Materials: (Makes enough for 12 girls)

- ✿ 500 mL (2 cups) Elmer's White School Glue (best, but other glue works too)
- ✿ Borax Powder (in the laundry soap section of the grocery store)
- ✿ Water
- ✿ Food Colouring
- ✿ Bowl or paper cup (1 per girl)
- ✿ Popsicle stick or spoon for mixing (1 per girl)
- ✿ Two large containers for mixing the "ingredients"
- ✿ Measuring cup / measuring spoons
- ✿ Small ziplock bags or plastic containers with lids for storing the finished slime

Instructions:

- ✿ Mix the white glue with an equal amount of water in one of the large containers.
- ✿ Pour 1 cup of warm water into the other large container. Add 45mL (3 tablespoons) of Borax powder. Stir until Borax is dissolved. ** The Borax might not all dissolve – this is O.K.
- ✿ Measure slightly less than ½ cup (100mL) into a paper cup for each girl.
- ✿ Add food colouring as desired.
- ✿ Measure 30mL (two tablespoons) of the Borax solution into the cup. A blob of slime should form almost immediately.
- ✿ Continue mixing – Tell the girls to use their hands for heat to complete the reaction.

Notes:

This stuff is really cool – adults and kids love it. The finished product is similar to "Gak". The slime will last 3-4 weeks or longer if stored in a sealed container (depending on how much it is played with). Kids tend to use a lot of food colouring to make really bright colours, which can transfer to their hands as they play with the slime. For a slightly cleaner version, use the blue gel type school glue mixed one part glue, three parts water instead of the white glue. Add glitter to the glue mixture as decoration with this version.