

Slime Science Project

Students will learn about measurement, polymers and how chemical reactions can change the state of certain ingredients.

Grade Range: PreK – 3rd

Time: 45-60 minutes

Materials:

- Borax powder {found in laundry detergent aisle}
- Elmer's Clear Washable Glue
- Water
- Stirring spoons, measuring cups, bowls, Ziploc bags
- Blank paper and markers
- Food coloring, glitter and nifty little items (optional)
- Glow in the dark paint (optional)

Instructions:

Younger students love activities that are a little messy, gooey and require them to use their hands. Making slime is just that. Through this fun science experiment, students will learn about chemical reactions and how mixing things together can create something completely different.

Before getting started with the activity, come to the class with some slime already pre-made. Hold it up and ask the students if they know what it is and how to make it. Pass the slime around, let them touch it.

As they are making the slime (see recipe below), talk to them about polymers and chemical reactions. Once everyone finishes making slime, it has to sit for at least 5 minutes. During that time, ask the students to draw what they observed. See discussion questions below as a resource. Once finished, allow the students to play with their slime. Before leaving have each student put their slime in a Ziploc bag to go home.

Discussion Questions:

- What did you draw? Why?
- What happened when we mixed the borax and glue?
- What did you learn?

Extension: Try alternative recipes and analyze the different reactions. Chart the results of each experiment and have the students vote on their favorite slime.

Borax Slime Recipe



Step 1: Dissolve 1 teaspoon of borax powder into 1 cup of water (room temperature) in a bowl.

Step 2: In a second bowl, mix 1/2 cup of clear glue with 1/2 cup of water.

Step 3: Pour glue/water mixture into borax/water mixture.

Step 4: Get your hands in there and mix. *(This is where things get a little messy and fun. You will see it come together right away. It will seem stringy and clumpy, but that's ok!)*

Step 5: Spend a few minutes working the mixture together. You will have left over water.

Step 6: Transfer slime to a third bowl which should be clean and dry.

Step 7: Let it sit for AT LEAST 5 minutes to allow everything to come together.

Step 8: Store in a Ziploc bag for use later one.