

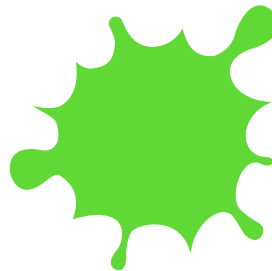
# Slime

Practice being a chemist as you watch for a reaction while making some sticky slime.



## Materials:

- Paper cups
- Glue/water solution (50/50 ratio)
- Craft stir sticks
- Food coloring
- Borax/water solution (1/2 cup of borax in 1 liter of water), dispensed into squirt bottles
- Ziplock bags
- Permanent marker



## Preparation:

- Mix up stock glue and borax solutions.

## Try This:

1. Label the Ziplock bag with each child's name.
2. Give each child their portion of glue solution (approximately 1/2 cup) with a stir stick.
3. Add 4 drops of food coloring into the glue solution. Stir until well mixed.
4. Squirt one good squirt of the borax solution into the colored glue and stir immediately. Too much borax makes a stiff blob. Too little borax makes a runny, gooey mess.
5. To store or take home, use the Ziplock bag.

## Want to Know More?

Glue is a polymer, or a long chain of repeating molecules. The chains slip by one another easily making glue a liquid. Borax is a cross-linking agent. When the borax and glue mix together, a chemical reaction occurs. Bonds, like bridges between the chains, are created and change the character of the new material. Slime doesn't look, feel, or pour the way either borax or glue do because it is a totally different material.

Polymers are found all over the world. There are natural polymers like DNA, silk, wool, and proteins found in you hair, skin, and nails. There are also synthetic polymers made by humans, like nylon, polyester, Teflon, and glue.

# Slime

## Facilitator Guide



### **Learning Objectives:**

- Polymers are long chains of repeating molecules.
- Matter can change when mixed with other matter.
- A chemical reaction can occur when matter is mixed together and something new is created.

### **Leading Questions:**

- How does your slime look?
- How does your slime feel?
- What state of matter do you think your slime is?

### **Hospital Accommodations:**

- Slime is a good activity for the hospital setting because it can be self-contained and is fun to bring back to your room for play later.
- Mix the slime in the Ziplock bag if children have aversions to touching slime or if they have ports/bandages that need to be kept clean.

### **Key Words:**

Matter - anything that takes up space and has mass.

Polymer - a long, repeating chain of molecules. They can be synthetic or naturally occurring.

Chemical Reaction - Occurs when matter is mixed together and something new is created.