Slime Chemistry



Are you ready to discover the magic of making your own colorful slime? In this experiment, we'll mix glue with some special stuff to create a stretchy and squishy substance that you can play with for hours! Get ready to have a blast as we explore the secrets of slime-making together.

Materials

- Clear or white school glue
- Contact solution (containing sodium borate and boric acid) OR laundry detergent (containing borax)
- Food coloring (optional for colored slime)
- Mixing bowl and spoon

Science Behind the Experiment

Imagine glue is like a bunch of tiny spaghetti strings called polymers. When you mix the glue with special stuff like liquid starch or laundry detergent, it's like adding a magic potion! The magic potion makes the spaghetti strings hold hands and connect with each other, forming a big web of glue. This special web of glue is what we call slime! Slime is stretchy, gooey, and fun to play with. It's not a liquid or a solid—it's somewhere in between! When you pull it slowly, it acts like a solid, but if you squeeze it quickly, it acts like a liquid. As you mix and knead the slime, you help the spaghetti strings and the magic potion mix well together. This makes the slime less sticky and more enjoyable to play with.

Step 1: Pour Glue

Start by pouring a generous amount of clear or white school glue into a mixing bowl. You can adjust the quantity depending on how much slime you want to make.

Step 2: Add food coloring

If you want colored slime, add a few drops of food coloring to the glue in the bowl. Mix it well to distribute the color evenly.

Step 3: Mix in contact solution/detergent

Gradually add liquid starch (or boraxcontaining laundry detergent) to the glue while stirring continuously. Keep adding and stirring until the slime starts to form and pulls away from the bowl's sides.

Step 4: Make Compost

Once the slime begins to take shape, take it out of the bowl and knead it with your hands. Continue kneading until the slime becomes less sticky and more stretchy and gooey. Now, your slime is ready to play with!