

A STEM in the Park

Take Home Activity

STEM

in the **PARK**™

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

Flubber



What You Need

- 2 bowls
- 1 1/2 cup warm water
- 2 cups white glue
- 1 1/3 cups hot water
- 3 tsp. Borax Powder (non-toxic/available by laundry detergents)
- Food coloring
- Metal spoon

What To Do

1. In a bowl, combine warm water, white glue and food coloring.
2. In a second bowl, combine hot water with Borax. Mix thoroughly.
3. Pour contents of small container into the large container.
4. Slowly pour Borax mixture into the glue mixture while stirring quickly. Stir until the mixture leaves the side of the bowl. Slime will be sticky. Knead the mixture until it is no longer sticky.

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The Science

Flubber... It's not just a Disney movie. Flubber is a polymer. Polymers are large molecules consisting of repeating identical structural units connected by covalent chemical bonds. Polymers can be naturally occurring or man-made. Man-made polymers are materials like nylon, polyester, and polystyrene. Examples of naturally occurring polymers are proteins in our body like tubulin and actin. These proteins make up microtubules and microfilaments that serve as structural components within our cells.

Storage and Safety Guidelines

Store flubber in an airtight container for about 3 weeks of use. Flubber is non-edible. When you are through with it, discard in a trash container. Do not wash down the drain.

This activity is brought to you by Imagination Station

