

Making Art with Children

As we all transition to remote learning and working with the kids at home, we now wear yet another hat as schoolteacher. The art activities that follow will help keep children busy as we all adjust to our new normal. Here are a few tips to keep in mind while we clean and organize our homes.

- Save those egg cartons, the clear plastic ones serve as wells for water or paint.
- As you look around the house, if you find old highlighters that have dried out – don't throw them away! Put them into an empty clean container with water. Leave them in for a few days and watch the ink color the water. This can be used as watercolor and stored for a long time. If you have more than one color marker, place them in different containers to create a variety of choices.
- Old jars, baby food jars and vegetable foam trays are great for art making. Please clean and disinfect them thoroughly before using.
- No apron? - Take an old adult t-shirt and place over the child. You can adjust with a rubber band by gathering any extra slack from behind on the t-shirt.
- Shoeboxes can become Cameras Obscuras, dioramas, and special 3D scenes. More to follow on our webpage.
- Small water bottles can become musical Instruments and bird feeders.

Slime making has become very popular and you can purchase many different kits to make it. The following recipe lets you create slime without having to go out to the store.

Making Slime (without Borax)

Slime is a wonderful discovery. Scientifically speaking, Slime involves chemistry and **about states of matter including liquids, solids, and gases**. It is all about the way different materials are put together, and how they are made up of atoms and molecules.

Slime is a non-Newtonian fluid. A non-Newtonian fluid is neither a liquid nor a solid. It can be picked up like a solid, but it also will ooze like a liquid. Slime does not have its own shape. You will notice your slime change its shape to fill whatever container it's placed in. However, it can also be bounced like a ball because of its elasticity.

Pull the slime slowly and it flows more freely. If you pull it quickly, the slime will break off easily because you are breaking apart the chemical bonds.

<https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/basic-slime-science-homemade-slime-for-kids/>



Elmers.com

This activity supports fine and gross motor skills development as they knead and manipulate. Hand eye coordination, and improve learning by engaging the senses and communication. (touch, seeing, smelling, hearing, speaking)

Materials:
Wooden stick from popsicles
Let's make some slime

1. Add **glue** or glitter glue add about 1 cup (5-8 ounces) of **glue** to your mixing bowl. Look at the ounces in the bottle.
2. Add baking soda. Pour in about 1/2 tablespoon of baking soda and blend it with the **glue**.
3. Add food coloring if desired or you can use glitter glue too.
4. Add 1 TBSP of contact lens solution. If the slime is too sticky add a few more drops.
5. Add essential oil if you wish, supervise your child so it does not go into their eyes.
6. Mix with a wooden stick or hands – it's really gooey at first.
7. Watch the transformation, the more you knead the less sticky it will be.
8. Presto, **slime!** You can store in a plastic bag.
9. If you have several kids, you can cut the slime with scissors and give each child a piece to play with.

All materials can be found at blick.com, Michaels, local grocery store, CVS, elmers.com, online.

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