



CHEMISTRY “SILLY SLIME” LAB



WHAT TO TURN IN: Hypothesis, Data Table (N/A), Calculations (N/A), Conclusion, Questions #1-4

Objectives

- To observe the properties of non-Newtonian fluids firsthand
- To review characteristics of crystalline vs. amorphous solids

Materials

Corn starch
Water
Plastic zip-top bags or bowls
Spoons
Plastic cups
Food coloring
Plastic cafeteria trays

Procedure

- 1) Write a hypothesis: How will the slime feel? How will it move?
- 2) In a zip-top bag or bowl, add one cup of corn starch. (You can add more or less, and this will affect how much water you add.)
- 3) Obtain a plastic cup of water. Add water by the spoonful until the mixture is syrupy and not runny.
- 4) Add food coloring if desired.
- 5) Knead the bag with your hands or stir until the mixture has a syrupy texture. There will be lumps.
- 6) Pour the slime onto the plastic tray. Observe how it moves.
- 7) Touch the slime with your hands. Observe any changes.
- 8) Try to pick up the slime with your hands. Observe.
- 9) Have fun!

Questions

- 1) Describe the texture of the slime when it was on a room-temperature surface.
- 2) Describe the texture of the slime when it was in your hands.
- 3) Did the slime change texture during the class period? If so, describe.
- 4) Why is the slime not a true solid?