

## SLIME

Slime is a cool substance to make, and it can be made using ingredients that are usually found in our homes. It's fun to make and even more fun to play with.

Slime can be defined as any non-Newtonian fluid, as based on the theories of Sir Isaac Newton. Yes, THAT Newton – the English physicist and mathematician who may be most famous for his groundbreaking thoughts on gravity.

The viscosity (state of being thick, sticky, and semifluid) of a non-Newtonian fluid can generally be affected by the application of what is called a shear stress. Examples of shear stresses are squeezing, stirring, agitating, or applying mechanical pressure to the surface of a fluid.

It is interesting to note that many of Newton's scientific observations were formed while working from his home during the Great Plague of London in 1665. At the time, Newton was a student at Trinity College, Cambridge when the college sent all students home to continue their studies. That was an early version of "social distancing".

For more information on slime, visit these online resources;

*Time for Slime*, American Chemical Society

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/education/whatischemistry/adventures-in-chemistry/experiments/slime.html>

*Science of Slime*, Steve Spangler Science

<https://www.stevespanglerscience.com/science-of-slime/>

*5 Ways to Make Slime with Baking Soda*, Arm and Hammer

[https://www.armandhammer.com/articles/kid-friendly-slime?gclid=CjwKCAjw3-bzBRBhEiwAgnnLCjGiR29XoNi\\_62Rb6T-Sn3NsSv7Cfxo6JcwYzY3ewHBh-cX4jh0C-xoCDXsQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.armandhammer.com/articles/kid-friendly-slime?gclid=CjwKCAjw3-bzBRBhEiwAgnnLCjGiR29XoNi_62Rb6T-Sn3NsSv7Cfxo6JcwYzY3ewHBh-cX4jh0C-xoCDXsQAvD_BwE)

Here's a favorite recipe that we've used for our library programs:

### SALINE SOLUTION SLIME RECIPE

Add ½ cup of clear or white glue to a bowl.

Add ½ cup of water and mix it all up.

Add food coloring and glitter.

Stir in ½ teaspoon baking soda.

Add a handful of googly eyes, as desired.

Mix in 1 Tablespoon of contact lens saline solution and stir until slime forms and pulls away from sides of the bowl.

If slime feels too sticky, you may need a few more drops of saline solution. Start by squirting a few drops of the solution onto your hands and kneading your slime longer. You can always add more, but you can't take any away.

Knead your slime well after mixing – this really helps to improve its consistency. The trick with saline solution slime is to squirt a few drops of saline solution onto your hands before picking up the slime. You can knead the slime in the bowl before you pick it up, as well. This slime is ultra-stretchy but can be stickier. However, keep in mind that although adding more solution reduces the stickiness, it will create a stiffer slime.

*MAKE SLIME, AND HAVE FUN!*