



Make a Super Bouncy Ball



Spark great conversations about the science behind elasticity with this chemistry and craft project rolled into one.

Materials

- 1/2 teaspoon borax powder
- 1 tablespoon white glue
- Food coloring
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch



Directions

1. In a large mixing bowl, have your child mix the borax powder with the cornstarch.
2. Add water to the borax powder and cornstarch mixture and mix well. Ask your child to describe how the mixture is changing.
3. Next, ask your child to add the glue to the mix and stir well until a blobby mixture forms.
4. Have your child roll the blobby mixture between the palms of their hands until it hardens and a rubbery ball forms. The trick here is to keep rolling and rolling. Describe how the mixture feels. Is it sticky or slippery? Is it cool or warm?
5. Once the glob is rolled into a tight, rubbery ball, it's ready to bounce! But first, estimate how high the ball will go. When ready, bounce the ball on a hard surface. After seeing how high it bounces, compare the actual height of the bounce to your estimate.



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