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Investigating reactions



Getting Started

Silly putty

Try making silly putty using the instructions below. You may be able to do it at home.

- 1 Measure out about 6 teaspoons of PVA glue into a small container, and add two or three drops of food colouring.
 - 2 In another container dissolve about a quarter of a teaspoon of borax in 20 mL of water. (Wash your hands after using the borax.) Slowly add this solution to the glue, stirring constantly.
 - 3 When the mixture has turned to a thick slime, wash it thoroughly in running water and dry it with a paper towel.
- Experiment with the slime to see what its properties are. For example, can you stretch it? Does it bounce? . . .
 - Was there a chemical reaction when you mixed the glue and the borax solution? How do you know?
 - Did the food colouring take part in the chemical reaction? How could you find out?

You can store your slime in a sealable plastic bag or container.



Are you sure you didn't add any extra ingredients?