

Alien Snot slime



Alien snot slime has a weird property!

It's a solid when you squeeze it BUT becomes a liquid when the pressure is released. Explore the wonders of a non-Newtonian fluid that comes out of aliens, in this gooey experiment.

Materials

- 1 2 x cups and water
- 2 Food colouring or colour my bath tablet
- 3 Pipette or eye dropper
- 4 Cornflour (maize)

Method

1. Fill a cup 3/4 of water and colour it using some food colouring or a bath tablet.
2. Place 1/3 a cup of cornflour into a second cup.
3. Using the pipette or dropper, add water to the cornflour and mix until you have an even semi-solid. This should solidify when under pressure and then flow when pressure is released.
4. Your Alien Slime can be made any colour, but alien blue works well. How about trying to make it again, but this time try adding some lentils or peas. You now have lumpy snot.

What's Going On?

This weird snot acts like quicksand in that it feels like a solid when a force is applied and becomes a liquid when the force is released. When a force is applied quickly, the cornstarch molecules link together, however, when the force is applied slowly, the molecules slide past one another and it feels like a liquid.

Take it further

This experiment with pictures is found on our website. If you want to stretch your brain cells further by changing variables, graphing etc, then explore these features through our Bright Spark Guides, subscriptions to our Crazy Science Club videos and more. Please see our website for further details.

