

# Clean Green Slime

Think slime is too, uh, slimy? Try making the cleanest slime there is.

## What You Need

Adult helper • Warm water • Clean quart jar with a lid • Measuring cup • Borax laundry booster • Mixing bowl • Measuring spoons • ~~White craft~~ <sup>clear glue</sup> glue • Green food coloring • Resealable plastic bag

## What You Do

Put 2 cups of warm water in the jar and add  $\frac{1}{8}$  cup borax. Close the lid and shake the jar until the laundry booster dissolves. Allow the solution to cool. In the bowl, mix 1 tablespoon of glue and 3 tablespoons of water. Add 2 drops of food coloring to the glue mixture and stir well. Pour this mixture into the bag. Now add 1 tablespoon of the borax solution from the jar. Knead the contents of the bag.

You've got slime. Store it in the bag when you aren't testing how strong and stretchy it is. (Never pour slime down the drain. If you need to discard it, put it in the trash.)

## Why It Works

Slimes are *polymers*: chemical compounds formed by long chains of the same molecule. Some polymers occur naturally (aloe plant juice) and some are manmade (chewing gum). In Clean Green Slime, you create a polymer by mixing glue, borax, and water. The glue is already a polymer, but it's very weak and sticky and would get full of dirt quickly if you tried to play with it. For a better, cleaner polymer you make boric acid by dissolving the borax soap (sodium borate) in the water, and then blend it with the glue.

