

Curiosity Labs™ by Merck:
HOMEMADE silly putty

in this experiment, you will learn...

- What a **polymer** is
- What a **chemical reaction** is

Share your results and tag us! #SPARKCuriosity

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SUPPLIES

- White glue
- Food coloring (optional)
- Mixing bowl
- Liquid laundry starch*

*You can find this near the laundry detergent in the store

Instructions

STEP 1

Add 1 cup (250 mL) of glue and a few drops of food coloring to the mixing bowl.

STEP 2

Add 1 cup (250 mL) of starch a little at a time, stirring constantly. Keep stirring until mixture holds together like putty.

STEP 3

Test mixture with your fingers. If it's too sticky, add more starch until the mass is smooth and rubbery.

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FUN FACTS

A chemical reaction occurs by mixing the glue and the starch. This reaction causes the polymer chains of glue and starch to join together into even larger chains.



WHAT HAPPENED?

Silly Putty was created! Glue and laundry starch are made of millions of tiny particles called molecules.

Molecules can join together in long chains to form materials called polymers. Silly Putty is a polymer.