

A Morning of Science Experiments



We found a few simple science experiments by searching educational websites online. One of the staff and one of the students looked together. A few items had to be bought from the local shops.

We split into two teams. Some people decided to protect their hair with paper towels!



All the students had a chance to be involved and no one was expected to do anything they didn't like. One person didn't wish to get their hands dirty at first and chose to watch. Later, when they saw the others enjoying themselves, they decided to join in.



Staff supported students in mixing the ingredients.

Each student used the activity to work towards one or more of their personal development goals. Examples of these are:

- Developing use of arms and hands by reaching for items.
- Following instructions and going through a process to achieve a result.
- The social aspects of a group activity - interacting with people rather than being supported alone.
- The practical aspects of a group activity - joining in an activity through 'hand-over-hand' support rather than just watching.



On an Australian website, www.csiro.au, we found instructions for making cornflour slime.

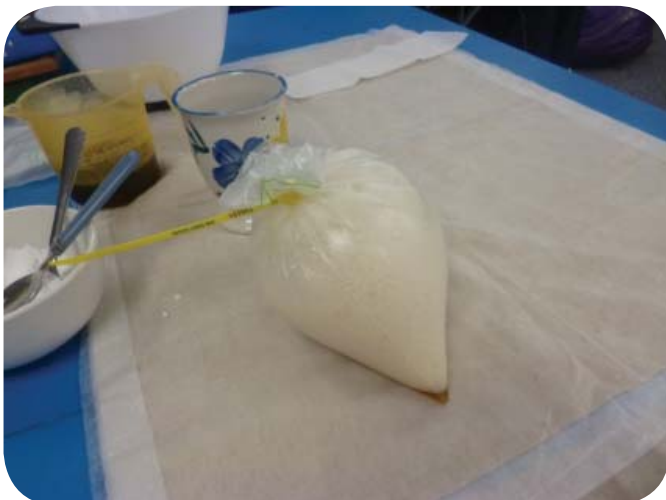
Cornflour slime doesn't follow the rules of fluid behavior.

It becomes thicker when you press it, an unusual sensory experience for everyone.



Food colouring was used to make the slime. After making the light green version, some students and staff decided to try using red food colouring to make fake blood.

Then they broke away from the experiment and set up a very convincing crime scene, complete with corpse! Unfortunately we can't show the photos here.



We found the video for 'How to Make an Exploding Sandwich Bag' on youtube. Instructions are also available on a number of other sites.

We didn't get this experiment quite right. We heard a phhhhht! sound and there was no explosion. Our bag was probably too big and thick.

For obvious reasons, the Diet Coke and Mentos Eruption experiment should take place outside!



We found the information for this experiment on another educational site.

There are many, many experiments available: messy ones, loud ones, funny ones....We decided against one that was supposed to create a bad smell because no one would have appreciated it.



We chose a few experiments that would suit everyone.



We left enough time to clean everything up at the end - including the ceiling (and ourselves)!