

Activities



Glacier Goo Recipe

This mixture helps demonstrate the changing nature of glaciers. Like glaciers, without much stress the mass has great plasticity and will flow like a glacier does most of the time. Add high stress such as a sudden jolt or pull and the mass experiences brittle failure, which is what happens when a crevasse opens up. As you vary the surface and incline, you can observe the way a glacier behaves in nature.

Materials for each group:

masking tape

one piece of plastic wrap (about 18" long)

One 20 oz cup

1 stirring stick (long enough for the large cup)

_ cup warm water

1 cup Elmers white glue

food coloring (opt)

one 8 oz cup

_ cup warm water

one stirring stick (for the 8 oz cup)

2 tsp. Borax powder

1 qt plastic zip lock bag

Procedure:

1. Tape the plastic wrap to the top of a desk. It works best to tape down each of the four sides so the surface doesn't lift up.
2. Prepare the two mixes below.

Mix # 1:

In the large cup, add _ cup warm water and 1 cup glue. Add 6 or more drops of color to desired color. Stir until well mixed.

Mix # 2:

In the smaller cup, measure _ cup warm water. Add 2 tsp. of Borax powder. Stir until the powder is dissolved.

Pour Mix 2 (the powder mix) into the glue mix. Stir until a glob forms and most of the water is mixed in. This happens quickly! Turn the mix onto the plastic. Knead and work the mix for 2 – 3 minutes. Most, if not all, of the water will be incorporated. Place the glacier goo in the zip lock bag.

The mixture will store for a few months. Rework the liquid when you are ready to use it.