IT'S SLIME TIME!

Let's make some super slurpy squishy slime! Slime-like substances can be found in many places in nature—the trail left behind by a snail, the goo inside of an aloe plant or the hagfish's defense when predators come too close. What will you do with your slime?

- LET'S MAKE SOME SLIME!
- A CLOSER LOOK AT SLIME
- NOTE FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

IT'S SLIME TIME!

DIFFICULTY: EASY (REQUIRES ADULT SUPERVISION)

It's gooey and sticky and squishy! It's slime! Plants, animals – even you – make a kind of slime to help stay healthy. Nature Cat, Daisy, Squeeks, and Hal used slime to keep Ronald away from Nature Cat's favorite ball of yarn. Here's how YOU can make super squishy edible slime. What will you use it for?

MATERIALS

- Two cups water
- Three heaping teaspoons of Tapioca Flour (also called Tapioca Starch)
- All natural food coloring (optional)
- One teaspoon small pearl tapioca (optional) (works best if you soak in water for several hours before cooking)
- Saucepan
- Wooden spoon
- Heat-safe bowl

LET'S MAKE SOME SLIME!

1. Combine the water and tapioca in a saucepan and stir until dissolved. Add five drops of food coloring (optional).
2. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat while stirring constantly. You will notice the color change from opaque to transparent.
3. Reduce heat and continue cooking for 5 to 10 minutes.

4. As the mixture starts to thicken, use the spoon to scrape along the bottom and the sides.

5. When the slime is ready, pour into a heat-safe bowl and let cool. Less time will produce a more liquid-like slime. Boiling the mixture longer will make it gooier. It's up to you! The mixture will continue to thicken overnight.

6. It's Slime Time!

A CLOSER LOOK AT SLIME

What does the slime feel like?

Is it a liquid like water?

Or is it solid like a rock?

NOTE FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

- This activity can also be done with a microwave, by putting the ingredients in a bowl and microwaving for three to four minute intervals. Stir and check for desired consistency between each heating.
- The disadvantage here is that children can't watch the thickening process as it shifts from liquid to semi solid.