

## Resource 5: Slimy Gloopy Things! (1 of 2)

### Gloop!

Just mix cornflour and water, which learners can help to mix. It acts like a solid but can pour like a liquid. Kitchen implements, spoons, spades, scrapers, rakes and funnels can all be used in gloop. Experiment by adding food colourings and flavourings to your gloop or a drop of perfumed oil or paint. Try making gloop from cocoa or custard powder and comparing the results.

### Slime!

This is clean messy play! Soap flakes are hard to find nowadays but you can grate baby soap to make your own soap flakes. Then add hot water and leave the mix to stand, preferably overnight. It becomes lovely thick slime!

Blobs of slime can be put in trays or on mirrors for learners to experiment with. You can add pasta shapes, food colouring and other items. Learners can smear slime on surfaces. They can play with slime using spoons, cups or funnels. They could also try using whisks to make it frothy!

### Dough

There are many different types of dough that can be made, all with a slightly different feel. The easiest is to support the learners to mix flour and water together to make soft dough that lasts for the day.

Go to [www.helpinghandsnetwork.btck.co.uk](http://www.helpinghandsnetwork.btck.co.uk) for recipes for cooked play dough that lasts longer, salt dough, and lots of other ideas.

Add food colouring or flavouring, or a drop of perfumed oil, and then add oats, seeds, grains or pasta shapes for texture. Learners can use items with dough such as rolling pins, garlic presses, brushes such as nailbrushes and toothbrushes, scissors and cutters. Salt dough can be formed into shapes, then baked and painted and is particularly good fun for older children.

There are hundreds of other ideas for messy play: as well as the usual finger paints, sand and water learners could try shaving foam, jelly, cooked pasta, ketchup, cereal, ice, sugar and water.

### Florist Gel

If you add a few teaspoons of water to florist gel and leave to stand for a few hours you will produce a mass of gel which comes in a variety of colours. It's safe and non-toxic and if it gets messy it can be rinsed and re-used.

### Magic Milk

Half-fill a large shallow tray with milk and add washing-up liquid to it (good quality washing-up liquid gives the best froth). Then add different food colourings to the washing-up liquid and the milk. Mix together to create colourful patterns.

## **Play Dough Recipe**

### **Ingredients**

- 2 cups of plain flour
- 4 tablespoons of cream of tartar
- 2 tablespoons of cooking oil
- 1 cup of salt
- 2 cups of boiling water
- Food colouring
- Glitter or coloured sand to make the dough more fun
- Smells or flavourings of your choice

### **Method**

Just place all the ingredients in a mixing bowl and mix.

It might not come together at first, but keep on mixing. It will eventually take on a nice play doughy texture.