

SCIENCE INVESTIGATORS

Teacher's Resource sheet Episode 1



Curriculum Strand - Living things
Strand Unit – Human/Animal life

Aims and Objectives:

To develop understanding of the characteristics of people, animals, and plants in the world around us. In this episode, we explore the function of slime, and why people and animals produce it. We will also make our own slime.

Class plan

Suggestions:

- ✓ Ask warm up questions with the class
- ✓ Watch the video
- ✓ Fill out the first two questions of the investigator's sheet (see resources below)
- ✓ Make slime in class
- ✓ Complete the investigator's sheet

Resources contained in this print out:

- ✓ Curriculum questions explaining slime
- ✓ Some warm up question suggestions
- ✓ The Science Investigators Slime episode can be accessed here:
<https://scienceinvestigators.wordpress.com/about/episodes-and-resource-sheets/>
- ✓ Experiment to do in class (resources and instructions are included)
- ✓ An investigator's sheet for pupils to discuss and fill out for each experiment

Curriculum Question Suggestions with answers. Explaining: Slime

Question 1

Why are some animals slimy?

Answer

Animals make slime for lots of reasons. Snails and slugs make slime to protect themselves, and to travel. They squirt mucus onto the ground, and then slide along it. The slime protects them from getting hurt as they move over sand, earth and rocks. Some animals make slime to protect themselves from predators; it makes them too slippery to hold on to. Did you ever try to catch a frog? Slime can also help keep animals cool in hot weather, and it is also a great moisturiser! It stops slugs and fish from drying out.

People make slime too. Watch the episode, and listen for one disgusting fact from our scientist Tracey Cassidy! Eeeuuw!

When we sneeze we release snot, which is a type of human slime. As we breathe, it catches pollen, germs and dust and other debris in our noses to help keep us healthy. The little hairs or cilia in our noses then give the message to our brain to get rid of all the debris, and this is what makes us sneeze. Attchooooo!

Question 2

Why do we care about slime?

Answer

As humans, we can learn a lot from nature. Slime is gooey and stretchy. Its properties can be copied to help us make products such as plastic bottles, rubber balls and rubber bands.

EXPERIMENTS

Slime can get messy...

- ✓ Protective clothing (art bibs work well)
- ✓ Cloth to cover tables

To clean up:

- ✓ Kitchen towel
- ✓ Rubber gloves
- ✓ Cleaning agent

Experiment: Making animal slime

For this experiment you'll need:

- ✓ A spoon for each group
- ✓ A bowl for each group
- ✓ Food colouring
- ✓ Corn flour
- ✓ Washing-up liquid

Directions:

1. Mix the corn flour with washing up liquid in your bowl until it is nice and gooey
2. Add food colouring to turn your slime to your chosen colour
3. Play!

Top Tip: If you keep your slime in a Ziplock sandwich bag in the fridge, it will keep for a few weeks.

INVESTIGATORS SHEET

What are we going to do?

What do you think will happen?

What actually happened?

Why do you think this happened?
