



Using Tools

Flubber Exploration

Children will use a variety of tools to explore flubber to help gain concepts of measurement, shapes, sizes, and a great way build vocabulary.

Materials

- Flubber (see recipe below)
- Trays
- Tools including
 - Rulers
 - Measuring cups
 - Scissors
 - Cookie cutters
 - Scale

Try This!

Invite children to use tools to explore flubber at the set up stations.

Next, let children use the tools to make different shapes and then measure length, volume, and weight of different amounts of flubber.



Follow children's interest and support exploration by asking questions and modeling ways to measure the materials.

Science Process Skills

- Using tools
- Observations
- Communication
- Measuring

Classroom Implementation

While children are exploring you can ask open-ended questions by asking:

- What types of shapes can you make?
- What does this remind you of?
- How can you make the flubber move?
- How many sizes can you make?
- What are other ways you can sort the shapes?

Depending on the age of the children, how it is presented will look different. This is a very open ended, exploration activity. Keeping that in mind, here are some suggestions:

- Grab a plastic container to squish the flubber around to make different noises!
- Place flubber in a bag and let children squish it and move it around.
- Challenge children to stretch the flubber as far as they can – slow and steady wins the race!

Flubber Recipe

Materials and steps

- 3 cups of water
- 2 cups of Elmer's white glue
- Liquid watercolor
- 2 tsp 20 Mule Team Borax

In a large container combine and mix:

- 1 ½ cups very warm water
- 2 cups Elmers white glue
- A few drops of water color and/or glitter if using clear glue

Make sure this combination is completely mixed before moving on.

In a small container combine and mix:

- 1 1/3 cups very warm water
- 2 level tsp 20 Mule Team Borax. Adults, please do this step.

Make sure the Borax is completely dissolved.

Combine the glue and borax mixtures: Mix well using your hands until all the liquid is absorbed. You may need to squish, mix, and break up the flubber to get it fully combined.

Store the flubber in a plastic, air-tight container at room temperature. For best results, measure precisely and mix well as noted above.

White vinegar removes flubber from carpet, clothes, and hair.

Credits and rights

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