

Investigation Oobleck

Take-Home Family Activities



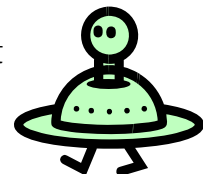
Thank you for participating in the **Investigating Oobleck** Workshop. We hope that you will join us again. To help your child to continue learning at home, we have put together some simple science activities that you and your family can do together. Like the workshop, these activities are aligned with New York State Learning Standards and will help your child to grasp important physical science concepts being taught in school. Please visit our website to find out which standards these activities meet and to access additional resources. Have fun exploring the world of science!

Activity #1 Bartholomew and the Oobleck

Read [Bartholomew and the Oobleck](#) by Dr. Seuss. Discuss the properties of Oobleck as described in the story. Compare the properties that you and your child discovered during the workshop with the properties described in the story to see how they are alike and different.

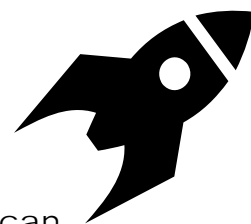
Activity #2 Landing on Oobleck

Now that you know the properties of Oobleck, work with your child to develop design and engineering skills. Use materials at home to make a vehicle that can land on a sea of Oobleck and then take off without getting stuck.



Begin the project by drawing a spaceship that can easily land and move upon a sea of Oobleck. Use paper, crayons and colored pencils so that your child can draw, color and label the parts of the vehicle. Once you have come up with a design that you like, develop a plan to build the vehicle.

Based on what you know about Oobleck, choose household objects and materials that will stay above the surface of Oobleck. You might experiment with wood, cardboard, metal, paper or plastic containers. Work together to construct a spaceship; then try to land on homemade Oobleck. If your craft is successful, you may want to experiment with adding weight to test the threshold of your vehicle.



We have provided a simple Oobleck recipe that your child can make to test his or her vehicle.

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Oobleck Recipe

This recipe will make enough for your family to work with 2 -3 cups of Oobleck.

1 16-oz boxes of Cornstarch
Large mixing Bowl
Green Food Coloring
2 cups water



To prepare the Oobleck, add 3 drops of food coloring to the $\frac{3}{4}$ cups of water. Add 1 box of cornstarch to a large mixing bowl along with $1\frac{1}{4}$ cups water. Add the light green water to the mixing bowl. Swirl and tip the bowl to level the contents then let the bowl sit.

15 minutes before the activity, mix the Oobleck by hand to ensure even consistency. Lift the Oobleck from the bottom of the bowl to the top by slipping your fingers under in, until the mixture is uniform. Cover the table with newspaper for a fast and easy clean-up. Keep an additional box of cornstarch handy in case the mixture becomes too soupy.

Words to Remember

Property of a substance: Something that can be seen, heard, smelled, felt by the senses, or detected by instruments such as microscopes, telescopes and thermometers, which are extensions of our senses.