



ALWAYS AIMING HIGHER, TOGETHER

EXCELLENCE | RESPECT | COLLABORATION | RESPONSIBILITY | CREATIVITY

Science workshop

Friday 11th March 2016

Why is Science so important?

1. Science is a part of our daily life.
2. Understanding science helps children appreciate, relate to and understand the world around them.
3. Science teaches children to make observations, collect information and to use logical thinking to draw a conclusion.
4. Scientists are an important part of the future of our world.



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How can you encourage your child to take an interest in Science?

1. Engage children with hands-on activities.
2. Look for projects that will coordinate with school Science projects and topics.
3. Make learning Science fun by showing children how science relates to their daily activities.
4. Talk with children about Science both at home and on outings.



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Hands-on Science activities to do at home...

<http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-activities>

[You may need to create an account \(for free\)](#)

<https://sciencebob.com/category/experiments/>

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/experiments.html>

<http://happybrownhouse.com/10-fun-balloon-science-activities-for-kids/>

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Some examples for children in Reception:



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Make a volcano!

You will need:

- Baking soda
- Vinegar
- Food colouring
- Clay
- Washing up liquid
- A can/cylindrical object
- Kitchen paper
- Rubber bands



How to do it:

Lay down a sheet of wax paper.

Place a container at the centre .

Use clay to make the rest of the volcano.

Leave for one hour or until dry.

Mix the vinegar, food colouring and washing up liquid.

Pour the mixture into the volcano.

Package your baking soda inside kitchen paper and seal with rubber bands.

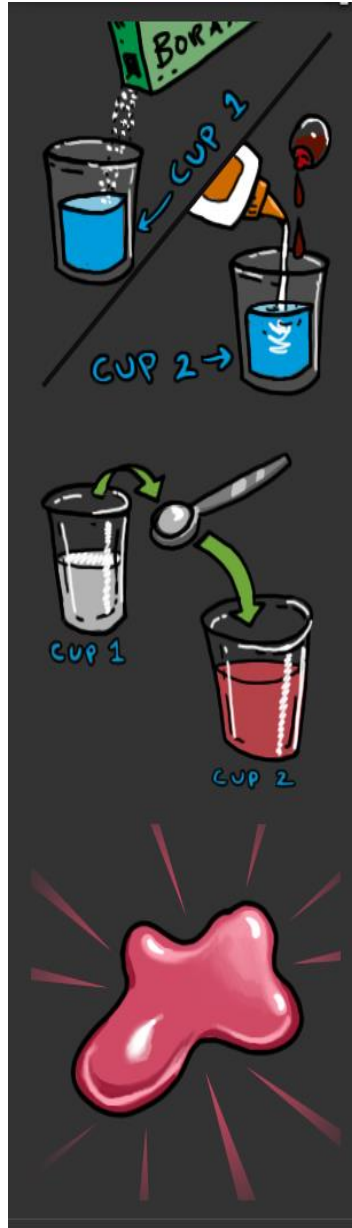
Drop the baking soda roll in the vinegar.

Step away and watch the volcano explode!

Make slime!

You will need:

- PVA glue
- 2 disposable cups
- Food colouring
- Water
- Borax Powder
- A plastic spoon
- A tablespoon



Fill one small cup with water and add a spoonful of the Borax powder and stir it up. Then set it aside. Fill the other small cup with about 1 inch (2.5 cm) of the glue.

Add three tablespoons (20 ml) of water to the glue and stir.

Add a few drops of the food colouring and stir it up until mixed.

Now the fun part...

Add one tablespoon of the Borax solution you made earlier and stir well. Watch the slime form!

After the slime forms, let it sit for about 30 seconds and then pull it off the spoon and play with it!

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Make a wind vane!

You will need:

- Round plastic drinking cup with lid, or round food storage container with lid
- Pebbles or sand
- A sharpened pencil
- A drinking straw (a straight one, no bendies!)
- A straight pin
- Cardboard
- Black permanent marker
- A compass



What You Do:

1. Start by putting the lid on the plastic container, and turn the container upside down. Trace around the lid, and then make another circle around the outer edge, at least 2 inches wider than the first one.
2. Use a ruler to divide the lid in half along its diameter, and then divide each of those halves in half. Have your child write the words for the four parts of the compass along the outer edge of each of the four sides. Moving from the top, clockwise, she should write "North, East, South, and West."
3. Now open the container. Stick a blob of modeling clay or putty on the bottom of the container, and then fill the remainder to the top with pebbles or sand. Snap the container lid on and tape it, if necessary, to keep it secure.
4. Glue the container, upside down, onto the cardboard compass base you just made.
5. Take the sharpened pencil, and poke it through the center of the plastic container so that the eraser is on top, and the point is held by the putty and sand.
6. Now, cut a broad triangle and a square, both about 3 inches across from your construction paper. Cut a slit in each end of the straw. Slide the triangle onto one end and the square onto the other. Use a bit of glue if they seem to slip. Push the pin through the center of the straw and attach it to the top of the pencil eraser. If you flick the straw, or blow on either end, it should move freely.
7. Take your wind vane outside to a place where the wind is not highly obstructed. Help your child find north, south, east, and west on a real compass, and line up the wind vane accordingly. Wait for the next breeze; the arrow will point to where it's coming from.

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Make a circuit to light up a model!

You will need:

An AA battery pack

A motor

Buzzers

Light-emitting diodes (commonly called LEDs)

AA batteries

Play Doh or homemade dough

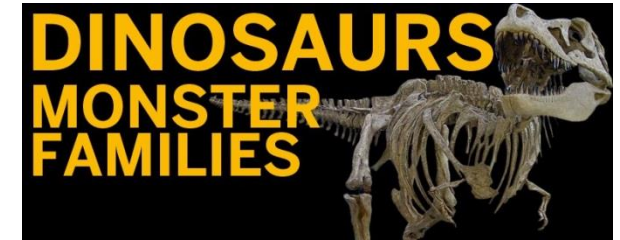
Modeling Clay



<http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-activities/squishy-circuits>

Local Science-themed outings!

- The Horniman Museum
- Science museum
- Kew Gardens
- The Natural History Museum
- The Florence Nightingale Museum
- Royal Institution's Michael Faraday Museum



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Science themed outings further afield!

Bletchley Park, Milton Keynes



The National Space Centre, Leicester



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La Fontaine

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