



# BREWING UP SOME STEAM

## DIY OOBLECK

If you liked "Shiny Pennies", try making your own Oobleck with items you may have around your house!

### Materials You Will Need:

- 1 1/2 - 2 cups of cornstarch
- 1 cup water
- a large dish, bowl or tub
- food coloring (optional)



### DIRECTIONS

- 1) Place the water in the bowl or dish.
- 2) Slowly add the corn starch to the water and stir. You can use a spoon at first, but pretty quickly you'll be moving on to using your hand to stir it up.
- 3) As you approach the addition of about 1 1/2 cups of the corn starch, start adding it in more slowly and mixing it in with your hand. The goal is to get a consistency where the Oobleck reaches a state that is liquid and yet solid.
- 4) Sometimes you will need more corn starch. If so, keep adding more than the first 1 1/2 cups. If you add too much, just add a little water back into it. Go with what feels appropriately weird.

# DIY OOBLECK CONTINUED...

5) *Add a few drops of food coloring, if you wish.*

6) *Play with the Oobleck! Grab some, squeeze it, let it run through your fingers. Make a puddle and quickly drag your fingers through it. Jab it with your fingers and then slowly let them sink in.*

*Note: Oobleck can be kept in a covered container for a couple days. After that, it will start to mold.*

*Activity from: 'STEM Education on the Go'*

## Why does this work?

Oobleck is what is known as a "non-newtonian" fluid. This means it acts like a fluid when being poured, but like a solid when a force is acting on it. Clean-up is super easy! Just rinse away in the sink.

