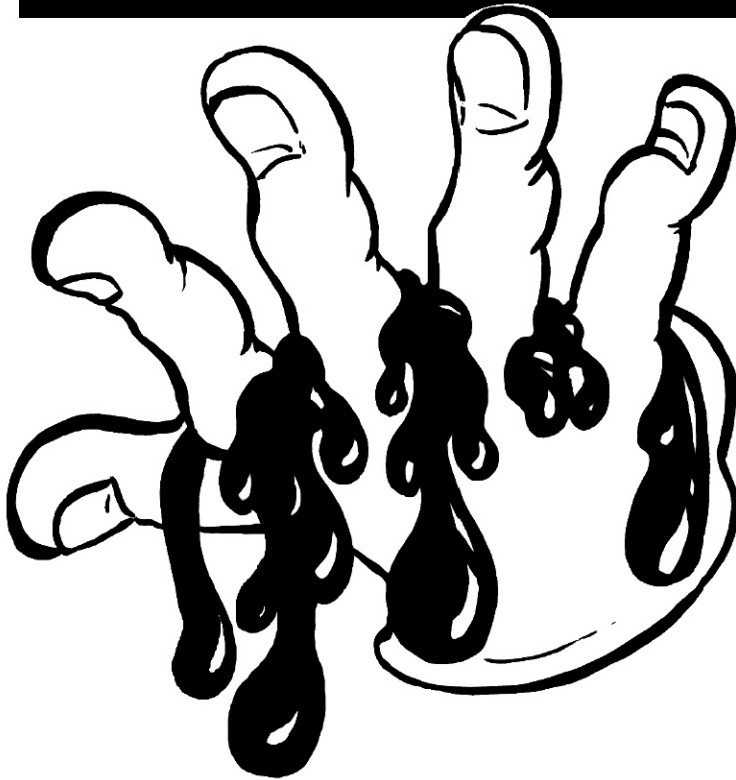


OUBLECK



Materials

- Green food coloring
- Bowl
- 1 (16-oz.) box cornstarch
- Table covering
- 1½ cups of water (*approximate*)
- Paper towels
- Measuring cup

DIRECTIONS

Oobleck is the name of this substance that resembles the green rain Dr. Seuss describes in his book *Bartholomew and the Oobleck*.

It is a unique substance that exhibits properties of both liquids and solids. It can be useful in studying scientific methodology and the properties of both solids and liquids.

Preparing the Oobleck:

1. Begin by adding several drops of food coloring to the water.
2. Place half the water in the bowl and add entire box of cornstarch. Mix, adding remaining water slowly as

needed. The Oobleck should flow like a liquid when the bowl is tipped and feel like a solid when touching the surface. Adjust by adding cornstarch if mixture is too soupy or water if too thick.

Procedure:

1. In groups, instruct students to investigate the properties of Oobleck.

Remember a property is something that can be seen, heard, smelled or felt by the senses (*color, texture, shape, hardness, odor, etc. are examples of properties*)

Have students record their

observations. **NOTE:** Remind students that substances in the lab should **never** be tasted.

If available, have microscopes and/or thermometers for students to further investigate properties.

2. Have groups share the results of their investigation.
3. During discussion, have the students determine if Oobleck is a solid or a liquid.
4. Clean up. Oobleck is best cleaned up dry. Never pour Oobleck down the drain! It will cause a clog. Let any spillage dry then sweep up or wipe away.