





Anisha's school is hosting the National Schools Science Fair and whoever has the **best experiment** wins an **amazing prize**. Actually, not just amazing, it's an intergalactic prize – a trip to a national space centre! And the winner gets to meet a **REAL-LIFE ASTRONAUT!** How cool is that?

Here's an idea for an experiment you could make at home, but first grab an apron as this can get messy!

You will need:

- Cornflour
- A big bowl
- Water
- A cup
- Food dye
- An apron to wear, as this can get messy!

SAFETY FIRST! ALWAYS follow the grown ups instructions carefully DO NOT eat, drink or inhale anything used in science activities ALWAYS keep your hands away from your eyes, mouth and face during science lessons ALWAYS wash your hands after science activities, even if you have been wearing gloves ALWAYS use goggles when chemicals, glass or heat are being used in an activity TELL the teacher immediately if you have an accident during a science activity YOU MUST ALWAYS measure chemicals and other ingredients very carefully. The wrong combinations or amounts can have DANGEROUS consequences

Instructions:

- 1. To make gloop, put two cups of cornflour into a big bowl. Add a cup of water and two drops of food dye.
- 2. Mix the cornflour, dye and water with your hands. It will take a few minutes to blend them all together.
- 3. Roll some of the mixture between your hands. What happens when you stop rolling?
- 4. Punch the mixture. How does it feel? Hold it up and let is dribble through your fingers. How does it feel now?

What's going on?

Cornflour is made of lots of long, stringy particles. They don't dissolve in water, but they do spread themselves out. This allows the gloop to act both like a solid

and a liquid. When you roll the mixture in your hands or apply pressure to it, the particles join together and the mixture feels solid. But if it is left to rest or is held up and allowed to dribble, the particles slide over to each other and it feels like liquid.



