

The liquid-solid mixture mystery

What happens when you mix something solid with something liquid?
Think about these different examples before following the recipe for a mixture that's surprisingly weird...

BAKING
Flour (solid)
+ Water (liquid)
= Dough (solid)

MAKING A DRINK
Milk (liquid)
+ Cocoa powder (solid)
= Hot chocolate (liquid)

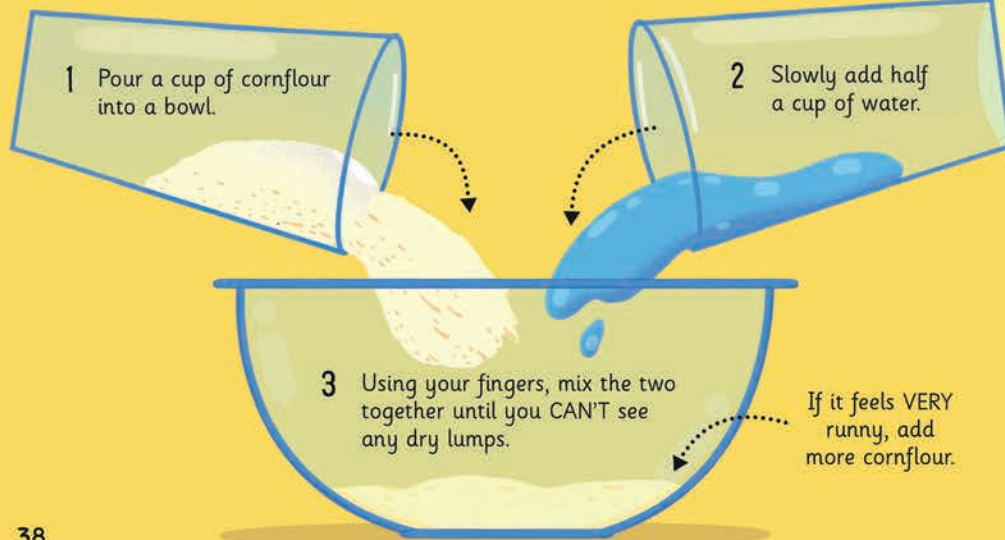
PAINTING
Paint block (solid)
+ Water (liquid)
= Paint (liquid, then dries solid)



Could something be liquid then solid again and again?



Weird mixture recipe



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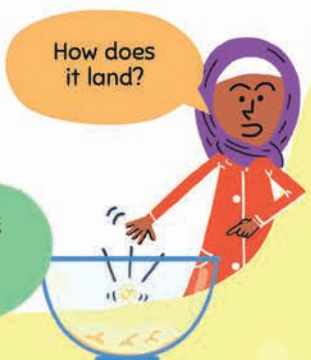
Put your mixture to the test

Tip the bowl slowly from side to side.

Hit the top with the back of a spoon.

Squeeze some mixture in one hand. Does it feel firm?

Roll some mixture between your hands into a ball. Drop it back into the bowl...



Explaining the mystery



When you squeeze, hit or roll the mixture, the cornflour particles clump together. That's why it seems SOLID.

If you move the mixture gently or leave it to rest, the particles slide over each other. This makes it look and feel like a LIQUID.

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