

# Activity Sheet

# Messy Play – Gloop!



My Five Senses

Messy play gives children the opportunity to experience a wide range of sensory experiences.

Messy play solutions such as finger-paint, slime and gloop help children learn about different textures and materials.

Exploring through messy play supports learning across children discover and develop different ways to be creative and expressive. Messy play might also support children's development in confidence in, and control of their own bodies, including active exploration with all the senses and the use of tools, materials and equipment to extend skills.

Messy play materials provide satisfying sensory experiences that can stimulate emotional well-being. Messy play

experiences are often enjoyed as a group and they provide opportunities for children to work with and alongside others.

It is recommended that activities should always been supervised by an adult.

## Making gloop

1. Slowly add one cup of cold water to two cups of cornflour in a bowl. Stir until the water is absorbed by the cornflour. Add colour if you like. Put the gloop in large containers with spoons, cups and other utensils.
2. Great just with fingers on a flat surface.

## What you will need:

- Cornflour, water and dye
- Little additional equipment is necessary – children use their hands and fingers, feet and bodies to experiment with.
- Brushes with different strength bristles, cardboard scrapers,
- Forks, spatulas
- Natural materials such as leaves, twigs, stones, flower or seed heads (minus the seeds).
- A flat, smooth surface to work on; low tables or troughs are ideal for more than one child. Children can be provided with individual trays for more individual experiences.
- Set up a place close by for hand-washing and line the floor or providing messy play outside can make cleaning up easier.
- Rhythmic music and messy play go together nicely.

## This activity can help children to:

- relax - it is a very soothing activity
- experiment with and explore the properties of the solutions e.g. does it hold its shape or pour or run? What happens when substances combine?
- learn about colour mixing, patterns, design, texture and rhythm
- develop hand-eye coordination and practice pouring, measuring, mixing, scooping and beating skills

## Adults can support children by:

- joining in to show them it's okay to get messy
- telling stories and using chants, rhythms, songs and music while playing
- not worrying about them getting messy – dress them in old clothes and aprons and be excited they are learning from being messy
- encourage experimentation
- use descriptive words such as slimy, runny, soft, warm, lumpy, wet.



The Kool Beginnings Curriculum supports our educators to implement the Australian Early Years Learning Framework which was developed by industry professionals through government initiatives. The EYLF provides solid theory, principles and strategies for how children best learn and develop. Find out more at [koolkidzchildcare.com.au/curriculum](http://koolkidzchildcare.com.au/curriculum)