

Concoctions...

Some of the things we use or play with were not meant to be. Many everyday objects began by mistake or were the result of a failed attempt to create something else.

Silly Putty was one of these failed attempts. In 1943 scientists were trying to create a much needed product to aide the war effort. Rubber was needed for tires, gas masks, boots, life rafts, and more. Enemies attacked America's sources for rubber. Facing a much reduced supply of rubber, scientists were asked to create a synthetic form of rubber. More than one attempt failed. One failure however, proved to be quite entertaining. It bounced, changed shape, and was very pliable. While the substance had amazing properties, it did not have the properties needed to replace rubber. Based on its entertainment value, this unusual substance made its way to stores in 1949. It was here that Peter Hodgson saw an opportunity to make money. The substance was put inside a red plastic egg and named Silly Putty. This new toy sold for \$1.00. In a very short time, Silly Putty became a much sought after toy.

These concoctions are similar to Silly Putty, but not exactly the same. They should be done with adult supervision.

Magic Glue

Ingredients/Materials:

2 small bowls or 2 medium sized cups	Food coloring
Measuring cups	$\frac{1}{4}$ cup water
Measuring spoons	20 Mule Team Borax (laundry product)
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup Elmer's White Glue	$\frac{1}{3}$ cup warm water
Plastic bag that zips or air tight container	

Procedures:

Solution A:

1. Mix $\frac{1}{4}$ cup white glue with $\frac{1}{4}$ cup water. Stir well.
2. Add 5 drops of food coloring.
3. Stir well.

Solution B:

1. Mix $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon Borax with $\frac{1}{3}$ cup warm water.
2. Stir until the Borax is completely dissolved.
3. Pour Solution A into solution B. Stir.
4. Knead with your hands removing excess liquid.

This mixture can be stored in an airtight container. It may be used to form letters or to manipulate in other ways. It's a fun way to work small motor muscles.

Funny Putty

Ingredients/Materials:

1 small cup or bowl
Measuring spoons
White glue
Liquid Starch (Stay Flo)
Fork
Food coloring

Procedures:

1. Put 1 table spoon of whit glue into a cup.
2. Add 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoons of liquid starch to the glue.
3. Mix with a fork.
4. Knead with your hands.
5. Add food coloring. Knead the mixture.

This mixture can be stored in an airtight container. It may be used to form letters or to manipulate in other ways. It's a fun way to work small motor muscles.

