We started by pouring our wet ingredients (PVA and washing detergent) with some baking soda into a mixing bowl. If you don’t have a lab assistant to provide an extra hand, you can do this in two stages. Mix these together thoroughly. You’ll have to experiment with quantities.

### Shopping List

- PVA glue
- Baking soda
- Food colouring
- Bowl & spoon
- Laundry detergent (with borax)

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**How does it work?**

The key ingredient in this is borax. It sounds like a Pokémon character, but is actually a chemical compound used in detergents, contact-lens solution and a few other household products. You’ll need to find a detergent with borax (not all of them do) – otherwise your slime will be a bit rubbish.

The borax – also known as sodium borate – makes the slime slimy by bonding with the PVA (polyvinyl acetate) glue. The vinyl acetate polymers are cross-linked (joined together) by the sodium borate molecules, creating massive interconnected molecule chains.

It’s these long chains that give slime its unusual non-Newtonian properties. It’s a liquid most of the time, but acts more like a solid if struck or put under pressure.

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**Top Tip! From Professor Orbax**

Is your slime too slimy? Is it running all over the place and generally not cooperating with your attempts to break records? What you need is a thickening agent. We used a bit of cornflour (not cornmeal – that’s something completely different) to get our slime to behave. A tablespoon or two is enough to get things looking right. Just sprinkle it in and stir it in.

If you go too far and stiffen your slime into a thick, unbending goop, you’ll need to add a little more PVA glue and detergent to balance things out. Careful, though: add it a little at a time or you might end up back where you started!

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**Guards**

- The following ingredients can be used to make the slime: glue, water, borax, cornstarch/flour and food colouring. The ingredients list and methodology must be submitted as evidence, along with video footage.
- The slime used must weigh no more than 50 g (1.7 oz). Its weight must be recorded on a scale.
- The challenger starts with their hands flat on a surface. When the time starts, the slime must be stretched with the hands. After 30 sec, the challenger must stop touching the slime; it should be left to rest for 10 sec before any measurements are taken.
- There can be no complete tears/breaks in the slime, otherwise the attempt is invalid.