Glue-Ball Laboratory: Students' Guide

Goals

- To introduce chemical change and the reactivity of matter
- To practice observation skills in the laboratory

The Activity

In this activity, you will use white glue and soap to create a new substance—a glue-ball. You will experience chemical reactivity for the first time, and investigate the properties of the new material formed, by observation. Thus, you will be introduced to basic laboratory skills.

Materials for Each Group

- Safety goggles
- Soapy water
- White glue
- Ziplock sandwich bags

SAFETY

Make sure that you wear safety goggles at all times during the laboratory practice.

Make sure that you zip the bags to prevent spills.

This activity requires no special safety precautions. It can be done on the bench, with no additional ventilation.

Instructions

Squirt some white glue into a ziplock bag.

Add some soapy water to the bag.

Zip the bag to prevent spills, and mold the substances in the bag with your hands.

What are the physical changes that you observe? _____

_____

_____

_____

When a white material is formed, take it out of the bag, observe it, and list its properties: _____

_____

_____

_____

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Compare the properties of your own glue-ball with your friends' glue-balls and list them in the table below.

Properties of My Glue-Ball	Properties of Other Glue-Balls

Why do you think that you have variations in the properties of the glue-balls?_____

_____

_____

Summary

What substances did you use? _____

_____

_____

What did you get from their mixing?_____

_____

_____

What do you call this change of matter? _____

_____

_____