



Bioluminescence and Slime

A science lesson with glow-in-the-dark slime.



Supplies

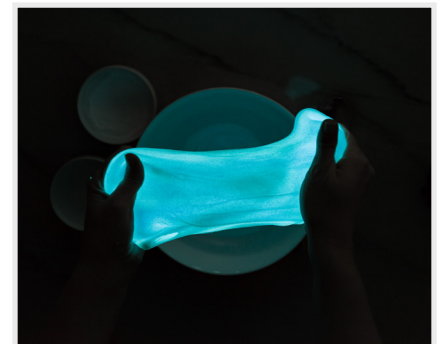
- 5 fl. oz. Elmer's® Glow in the Dark Glue
- ½ tbsp. baking soda
- 1 tbsp. contact lens solution
- Bowl
- Mixing utensils
- Measuring spoons
- Student journals or lined paper for writing responses
- The book *Glow: Animals With Their Own Night-Lights* by W.H. Beck

Teacher Tip

Give your students a journal prompt related to this activity. For example, "Imagine you woke up and found out that your skin now glows in the dark. What would you do?"

Instructions:

1. Pour the entire bottle of Elmer's® Glow in the Dark Glue into the bowl.
2. Add ½ tbsp. of baking soda and mix thoroughly. Then add 1 tbsp. of contact lens solution. Mix until solution gets thick and slime begins to form.
3. Take out the slime and begin kneading it with both hands. If needed, add another ¼ tbsp. of contact lens solution to make the slime less sticky.
4. Once the slime is ready, turn out the lights. Oooh! See how your slime glows?
5. Now, using a flashlight, read the book *Glow: Animals With Their Own Night-Lights* aloud to the class while they play with their slime. Discuss what the book tells you about bioluminescence (the scientific term for "glowing") and how it helps animals to survive and adapt to their environments.
6. With the lights still out, hide your slime in the back of the room, under a table, and on a bookshelf. Notice you can still see it.
7. Turn the lights back on and put the journal prompt on the board. Have the kids free-write for a few minutes, then discuss their answers as a class.



* Adult supervision is required; this project is not appropriate for children under the age of 3 years. Always wash your hands before and after making and playing with slime. Warning: If large quantities of contact lens solution are accidentally ingested (greater than a tablespoon), get medical attention immediately.

* Some contact solution brands work better than others. Check out the Slime Tips section at elmers.com/slime for details.

Check out more fun ideas at elmers.com/slime