

Corn plastic Christmas decorations



Christmas decorations really help you get in the festive mood, but they are often made of plastic which is made from oil and has negative impact on oceans and the animals which live there. In this activity you will make your own Christmas decorations using corn plastic.

Part one

1. Measure 1 tablespoon of cornstarch into your plastic bag
2. Add 1 tablespoon of water to the cornstarch
3. Add 2 small drops of corn oil to the mixture in your bag
4. Add 2 drops of food colouring to the mixture in your bag
5. Seal the bag and squash it or stir it gently to mix everything together

Describe how the mixture feels.

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Compare how it feels when you squash it quickly versus slowly.

Part two

6. Microwave your mixture on high power for 20 seconds. Be sure to leave the bag open a tiny bit so the steam can escape.

Describe how your corn plastic has changed

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List the things you could make with it

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List the things you could **not** make with it

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What is used to make cornplastic?

Part three

7. Put the mixture into the Christmas style moulds and heat them in the microwave until slightly yellow. (Do not heat for too long or else it will become crumbly.)