Frederick Law Olmsted

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

National Historic Site





As the site of the nation's first full-scale, professional landscape architecture office, we have a lot of examples of creative uses of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. We would love you to try out some thing inspired by the happenings of the Olmsted office!

What did the Olmsteds do? To make outdoor spaces (landscapes) interesting for visitors, the Olmsteds mixed plants, structues, water, rocks, and other items so that there would be many kinds of colors and textures to experience, just like there are in nature.

In the early 1900s, the Olmsteds designed landscapes for two observatories. An observatory has tools such as telescopes that help you see the colors and textures of outer space. Explore colors and textures of your own design with space slime!

What can you do?

Supplies needed: Clear Washable School Glue Water Liquid Starch* **Food Coloring** Glitter/Confetti stars (optional)

*Liquid starch can be found in grocery, craft, and online stores near laundry detergent.

Directions:

- 1. In a container or bowl, mix 1/2 cup water and 1/2 cup glue.
- 2. Add food coloring and glitter and mix.
- 3. Add 1/4 cup liquid starch and stir vigorously. The liquid will thicken.
- 4. Knead the slime then set aside for 3 minutes. Play with your space slime!

The Science of Making Slime...

- The glue is a polymer, which is made of identical molecules that flow past each other, keeping the texture liquid along with the water.
- -When you add the liquid starch, the borate ions in it connect to the molecules and cause them to tangle and become rubbery like slime.



