

Make Your Own Bio-plastic Stuff...In Your Microwave

1. Place a tablespoon of cornstarch in a plastic Ziploc bag.
2. Add two drops of corn oil to the cornstarch.
3. Add one tablespoon of water to the oil and cornstarch.
4. Mix the cornstarch, corn oil, and water in the plastic bag by rubbing the outside of the bag with your fingers.
5. Add two drops of your favorite food coloring and mix again.
6. Place the bag in a microwave oven on high for 20-25 seconds. DO NOT completely seal the bag. CAREFUL, it's hot!

Materials

- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 2 drops corn oil
- Ziploc bag
- Water
- Food coloring

Observations

1. What do you notice about your biodegradable plastic?
2. Is your biodegradable plastic the same as the other students?
3. What could you make with this biodegradable plastic if you let it harden? Remember it will dissolve eventually.
4. What happens to your plastic?
5. Form your plastic into a ball (while it is still warm) and describe what it does.
6. Compare your biodegradable plastic with the plastic Ziploc bag.

