

Materials

- Water
- Diapers
- Scissors
- Container
- Pen/Grease pencil
- Tweezers (optional)
- Glue (optional)

Overview

Diaper powder is a chemical superstar! The powder is a type of chemical called a polymer- a long chain of molecules that is made of many smaller units called monomers. When superabsorbent polymers contact water, they expand a LOT and act like a giant sponge. Water is drawn into, and held by, the polymer molecules. Even the best diapers have their limits-- how much water can your diaper gel hold before it's completely soaked?

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Instant Snow

Activity Instructions

Mess-O-Meter



"Have Towels Ready"



Procedure

1. Open up a diaper, and cut or tear the first layer.
2. Use your tweezers to remove the fluff from the inside of the diaper.
3. Shake out the powder from the fluff and the inside of the diaper.
4. Collect the powder and place into a cup or container. Get your water ready but don't pour it yet!
5. Make a prediction what will happen to the powder based on how much powder you collected. Use a pen or your grease pencil to mark a line you expect the snow to reach.
6. Add a little bit of water at a time and stir the powder with the water. When the water has been absorbed by the powder, you can add more water.
7. Make sure you **do not pour your snow down the sink**, throw it away.