

Science can be great to explore with children, below are some tried and tested activities that will be heaps of fun. Keep in mind to read through the instructions fully and to follow the best you can. Science can be very particular.

The Mad Scientist



Lava lamps

Water is heavier than oil so it will always sink to the bottom, but add an effervescent element like Berocca and watch the water bubbles rise and fall.

This activity can be done in almost any size bottle. It can be a great way to recycle waste.

This is one of the activities where the instructions are very important and need to be followed carefully to ensure it works well. Instructions found at oscn.nz/files/lavalamps.pdf



Crystal shapes

Crystals usually form naturally when liquids cool and start to harden and this experiment is no different.

Dissolved borax in water, when heated then slowly cooled with a pipe cleaner to attach to, will create an awesome crystal.

These crystals will take the form of the pipe cleaner used, so if you make a letter or shape then you will get custom creative crystal.

Instructions found at oscn.nz/files/crystalshapes.pdf

Slimy putty

Slime is fun to make with kids, have a go and see what crazy combinations you can make.

Instructions found at oscn.nz/files/slimyputty.pdf

Note in this craft the ingredients are quite specific especially the glue so remember to follow carefully to get the best results.



Need Borax?

Borax can be brought from hardware stores like Bunnings or online. For bulk amounts try places like Trademe.

Wool



Tassel Friends

Like pom poms, tassels are relatively easy to make and can be used to start awesome crafts.

The above example uses googly eyes and pipe cleaners to craft soft tassel friends.

Instructions found at oscn.nz/files/tasselfriends.pdf

Other tassel crafts

Necklace



Bag tag



Garland



Instructions found at oscn.nz/files/othertassels.pdf



Wrapped Letters

This awesome craft would look great on a bedroom door or wall. Its as simple as wrapping wool over a template.

This can be easily adapted to suit different ages. Large simple letters from card will make it easier for younger children to do on their own. Older children may want to use card, wire or pipe cleaners to make a more complex shape or even a whole word.

Instructions found at oscn.nz/files/wrappedletters.pdf

Wool is usually easy to come by in many second hand shops and discount stores however you could also put a call out to local families as knitters and crocheters often have leftovers they may wish to donate.

Fruit pom poms

Pom poms are great, but these funky fruit pom poms are really special.

All it takes is a bit of patience winding the wool around till it its thick enough. Then cutting the wool off and tying it up. Full detailed instructions found at oscn.nz/files/fruitpompoms.pdf

Below is pictured the strawberry but the once you have made one let your imagination go wild to create other fruit like pom poms.

