

Kinetic Sand

You will need:

- Adult help
- 6 cups of play sand
- 1 & 1/2 cups of corn flower (starch)
- 3/4 cup of water
- 2-4 tsp of anti-bacterial washing up liquid
- Large container

Let's make it!

In a large container, combine the play sand and corn starch and mix well. Combine the washing up liquid and water in a separate container, and stir until the water is bubbly. Slowly pour the water into the sand/cornstarch and mix well. Mix and mix before adding more water. If more water is needed add a little more and mix. Continue to add more water until the desired consistency is reached. Depending on whether your sand is coarser or finer you may need more or less water, so add it SLOWLY! Mix well and you are ready to go! It's a good idea after a few hours, to add 2 more spoons of anti-bacterial washing up liquid. This keeps it malleable and also protects it from bacteria and dirt. Store your sand in an airtight container where it should stay good for several weeks. If it dries out, just add a touch of water and mix it into the sand the next time you go to play with it.

How?

Commercially made Kinetic Sand is made of 98% sand and 2% polydimethylsiloxane (a type of organic polymer or simply silicone oil) that mimics the physical properties of wet sand. Silicon oil is a type of non-Newtonian fluid which is like honey stretching and running but if you touch it quickly, it is hard and solid. Corn flower mixed with water has the same unusual physical properties and that is why our kinetic sand works.

