



# Baked Cotton Balls

## #298

### AGE GROUP



3-5 years



6-12 years

### HOW DO I SET UP & PLAY?

*Curiosity Spark - How can we make a soft cottonball feel hard?*

- Mix flour and water to a smooth but thick batter, try to get rid of any lumps if you can, the children enjoy helping whisk the lumps out!
- Separate mix across 2-3 bowls and then stir through colouring (If your batter is a little too runny just add more flour).
- Encourage children to pick up and dunk the cotton balls into the different goopy batter colours and then place into the egg cartons.
- You don't have to use the egg cartons but I find it helps some of the excess paint drip off before placing on the oven trays.
- When they have 'battered' all of the balls, place them on trays lined with baking paper and pop into a slow oven.
- This activity is a real workout for the hands and fine motor skills.
- Bake in a moderate oven for around 40 minutes. If you spread them out across a few trays they will bake faster.

### WHAT MATERIALS DO I NEED?

- 2 cups flour
- 1.5 cups water
- Cotton Balls
- Food colouring or edicol dyes
- Whisk
- Bowls or we use empty 2-litre ice cream containers
- Baking/greaseproof paper
- Oven trays
- Oven
- Egg carton trays (optional)



Exploring & using my senses



Exploring Simple Science Concepts



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### EXTENDING LEARNING SPARKS

- Spread out the baked cotton balls and let children 'smash' them with wooden playdough hammers or small tack hammers.
- Use the balls as a collage material
- Explore the concepts of hard and soft by pinching and pulling apart the cotton balls as they are hard on the outside and soft on the inside.

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