

OIL AND WATER SNOW GLOBE with Marigold Haske

Oil and Water Snow Globe

Here is a fun science-based twist on the traditional snow globe. My kids were fascinated with the blue sky hanging over the house in our snow globe. The top half (the "sky") is baby oil that's been dyed blue and the bottom half is plain water. The trick is that oil and water don't mix and the two liquids have different densities. Oil is less dense than water, so it is lighter and it floats to the top. Water is denser, so it's heavier and it sinks to the bottom. — [Marigold Haske](#)

Activity Time: 30 minutes

What You Need

- Plastic snow globe
- Small plastic figure or toy to place inside the snow globe
- Hot glue
- Water
- Baby oil
- Glitter or mini sequins
- Oil-based food dye for candy, blue
- Toothpicks

How to Make It

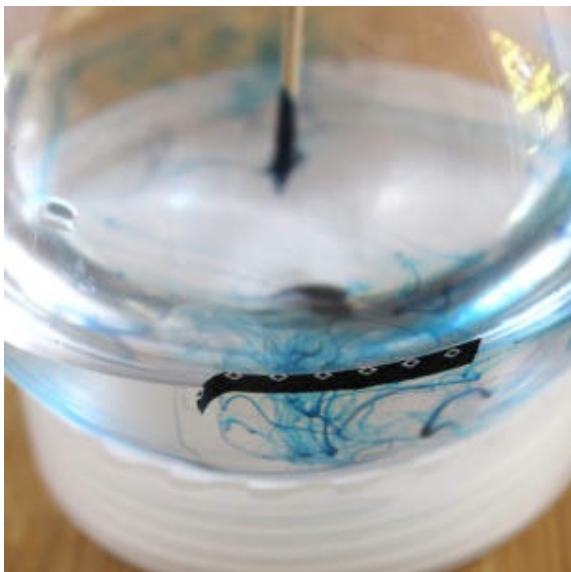
Glue the plastic toy or figure to the snow globe base using a generous amount of hot glue and allow to dry completely.



Place the globe over the toy and use a small piece of tape to mark a spot above the toy where you would like the sky to start.



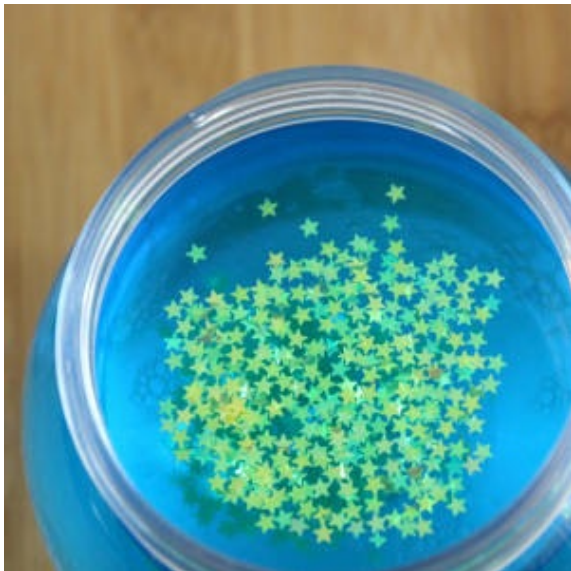
Turn the globe over and pour baby oil into it up to the marked tapeline.



Add blue oil-based food dye for candy. I dipped a toothpick into the food dye and then swirled it around the baby oil. (If you plan on using the dye for food later, make sure you use a new toothpick each time you dip it into the dye.)



When you have the desired oil color, pour water into the globe. Do not fill all the way to the top because the water will be displaced when you place the base on with the toy.



Add glitter and sequins. If necessary, add or remove liquid as needed for the toy to fit and to have a small air bubble at the top of the snow globe. Seal the snow globe.



Shake it up to mix and watch the liquids and glitter separate. This is a great opportunity for an easy science lesson for kids: Explain to them that oil and water don't mix. Since oil is less dense than water, it floats to the top. The water, which is denser, sinks to the bottom.

Marigold Haske is the designer, maker, and author behind the craft blog [Hideous! Dreadful! Stinky!](#) where she offers functional crafts for the home and family. Chock-full of tutorials, inspiration, sew-alongs and irreverent humor for the DIY mama, Marigold writes for an ever-growing community of artful souls who embrace a fun, quirky, handmade life. She lives, works and plays in Charlottesville, Virginia, with her charming husband and their two exceptionally silly sons, Huck and Milo.



Love this activity? Find more in the Disney Imagicademy Parents iPhone & iPad App!