



ICE AGE PONDS

DIY SLIME GLACIER



A glacier is a huge mass of ice that moves slowly over land and are often called “rivers of ice.” Massive ice sheets covered much of North America and Europe during the Pleistocene time period. This was the last glacial period, also known as the Ice Age. As the ancient glaciers spread, they carved and changed the Earth’s surface, creating many of the landscapes that exist today. Towards the end of the last Ice Age, around 23-24,000 years ago, a glacier extended from the Welsh mountains into north-west Herefordshire. The expansion probably only lasted a couple of thousand years but it dramatically changed the landscape.

Have a go at making your own ‘Slime Glacier’ by following the instructions below!

What you will need:

> 2 pieces of cardboard (approx. 20cm x 20cm)

> Scissors

> Tin foil

> Playdough/Blu-Tak

> 2 food tins (to use as a weight)

> Slime



1) Follow the diagram and fold one of the pieces of cardboard in half (blue line) and mark a point 2cm along this folded edge. Draw a line from this point to the opposite corner on both sides (red dotted line). Cut along this line.

2) Cover one side of both pieces of cardboard with foil.

3) Place the unfolded piece of cardboard on a table. Stand the folded piece of cardboard at one end of the flat cardboard on the edge you cut along. You will need to use the playdough/blu-tak to hold this in place and find something sturdy like tins to stand behind it to keep your valley standing.



4) Place your slime near the top of your valley.

The slime will slowly slide down the valley. When it reaches the flat table it will start to spread out because it has more space.



When glaciers do this we call it Piedmont Glacier. A Piedmont glaciers occur when steep valley glaciers flow onto relatively flat plains, where they spread out into fan or bulb shapes (lobes).