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Activity worksheet

Why do slugs and snails need slime?

Once you have watched the demonstration video and tried out the experiments for yourself, try answering some of these questions:

Question 1
Which of the following is NOT a non-Newtonian fluid?

a) Water
b) Toothpaste
c) Cornflour-water mix

Question 2
Which of the below do slugs and snails not use slime for?

a) Movement
b) Recognising others
c) Digesting food

Question 3
What is slug and snail slime made from?

a) Water and salt
b) Water and glycoproteins
c) Acid and salts

Question 4
True or false: the muscular foot applies force to the slime in order to travel

a) True
b) False

Question 5
What DOES NOT happen to the slug and snail slime when a force is applied?

a) It hardens
b) It becomes sticky
c) It changes colour

Question 6
Why is the cornflour-water mix classed as a non-Newtonian fluid?

a) Its viscosity depends on force applied
b) It has a very high viscosity
c) It has a very low viscosity

Question 7
What happens when you apply force to the cornflour-water mix?

a) Its viscosity decreases
b) Its viscosity increases
c) Its viscosity stays the same

Question 8
True or false: the toothpaste viscosity decreases when force is applied.

a) True
b) False

Answers: 1) a, 2) c, 3) b, 4) a, 5) c, 6) a, 7) b, 8) a

Mark out of 8:

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