Science Museum Group Risk Assessment Form

Nature/type of task/activity being assessed	Slime Time
Location being assessed	Various locations
Date of assessment (reviewed)	18/02/2014
Date by when assessment must be reviewed	18/02/2015
Assessment completed by	Laura Meade

Reference number	
How many people could be at risk?	30+
What category of person may be at risk Employee Contractor/Volunteers Public Young (please state age range) Older Special needs (please state which needs)	 Yes Yes Yes 3+ Yes Yes

Hazard	Nature of the consequence	Conse-quence	Risk	Score C x R	RISK RATING	Control measures existing **new**	Time scale	Respons-ibility	New RISK RATING
Heavy boxes of props	Inappropriate handling	2	1	2	Tolerable	All employees to receive manual handling training	Ongoing	All staff	Trivial
Cables	Can become a trip hazard	2	1	2	Tolerable	All cables to be secured against tripping by 'gaffer tape' or equivalent.	Ongoing	All staff	Trivial
Poorly maintained electrical AV equipment	Could cause an electric shock	2	1	2	Tolerable	Electrical equipment to be PAT tested in accordance with Museum policy.	Ongoing	All staff	Trivial
Glue used during workshop	Ingestion Illness due to consuming glue.	2	1	2	Tolerable	Use standard non-toxic PVA washable glue. Used by participants under constant adult supervision.	Ongoing	All staff	Trivial

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Glue used during workshop	Spillage Getting glue on themselves and/or their clothes	1	2	2	Tolerable	Use standard non-toxic PVA washable glue. Used by participants under constant adult supervision	Ongoing	All staff	Trivial
Borax	A mild irritant. Participant and staff might get a rash from it. This is especially a problem for people who already have a skin complaint. Pregnant women should avoid handling Borax. Borax is now deemed to be a possible mutagen (which may harm unborn children).	2	2	4	Moderate	Staff and participants briefed of the dangers at the start of the workshop. Outreach officer informs teacher in charge that no pregnant teachers should be involved in handling the slime in the workshop. Officers make water and borax solution before start of the workshop. Officers wear goggles, gloves and aprons when making solution. Everyone wears gloves and aprons to avoid the borax coming into contact with their skin. Staff constantly supervise the use of borax and control distribution of powder. Children do not handle borax powder. Staff and participants debriefed on how to use the slime at home. Slime packets collected up and left with teacher over night- pupils can collect it the next day.	Ongoing	All staff	Tolerable

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Glue/Borax solution	Skin irritation due to contact with borax Participant and staff might get a rash from it. This is especially a problem for people who already have a skin complaint	2	2	4	Moderate	The participants sit down during this part of the workshop.	Ongoing	All staff	Tolerable
Slime being handled after the workshop	Slime getting into their eyes/mouth Irritation from handling	2	2	4	Moderate	Participants instructed not to remove slime from the plastic bags provided for next 12 hours to give it time to settle in to the slime. Participants are warned that they should be careful with it and if they handle it they should wash their hands afterwards. There is only a small amount borax in the slime, which would not be harmful if ingested.	Ongoing	All staff	Tolerable
Latex	Latex allergy	2	2	4	Moderate	A warning is given at the start of the workshop to alert Latex allergy sufferers of the use of latex. They then have the option of staying or stepping out while the latex is being shown.	Ongoing	All staff	Tolerable

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Assessment values		Classification of risk rating (C x L = score)		Action from risk rating	
Consequence (C)	**Likelihood (L)**	**Score**	**Risk rating**	**Action**	**Time scale**
Marginal - 1 (slight injury, minor first aid)	Unlikely - 1	1	Trivial	No further action required	-
Dangerous - 2 (serious injury or damage)	Likely - 2 (to occur at some time)	2	Tolerable	Keep control measures under review	within 3 months
Very dangerous - 3 (could cause death or widespread injuries)	Very likely - 3	3-4	Moderate	Fine tune control measures	within 3 months
		6	Substantial	Urgent control measures needed	within 1 month
		9	Intolerable	Stop activity until risk reduced	immediately