



Project Exploration creates transformative learning opportunities for youth underrepresented in the sciences –particularly students of color and girls – by equipping them with the skills, practices, and mindset needed for a lifelong pursuit of learning. STEM@Home makes activities around science, technology, engineering, and math accessible and fun to do at home. This STEMbook activity, resources, and more are available at [www.projectexploration.org/stemathome](http://www.projectexploration.org/stemathome).

## In this activity, you will:

learn about how baking soda works in deodorant to neutralize odor! Make sure to look at part one first to see how baking soda works!



## Supplies Required:

- Measuring cups
- Baking Soda
- Starch (Corn starch, arrowroot, tapioca)
- Coconut oil
- Mixing bowl
- Small tupperware
- Something to stir with

## Video

What does deodorant really do to your body? <https://tinyurl.com/ydcnqjn9>

## Overview

Because baking soda neutralizes odor, it also works in deodorant to keep your pits from getting stinky! You can make deodorant at home with three simple ingredients too: baking soda, coconut oil, and a starch.



## Instructions

1. Place 3 tablespoons of coconut oil, 2 tablespoons of starch, and 2 tablespoons of baking soda in the mixing bowl. Stir until everything is combined and the mixture looks creamy.
2. Pour the mixture into a small tupperware. Place tupperware in refrigerator for a few hours to let harden.
3. Once it is hardened, you can use it by popping it out of the container! Put it back in the container in the fridge when you are done using it.
4. Smell your pits before putting on deodorant! Write down what they smell like.
5. Put your old deodorant or no deodorant on one armpit. Put the new baking soda mixture on the other armpit. Compare the smells after every two hours. Record your observations. Which armpit smells better?

## Additional Resources

1. You can add essential oils to the mixture to add a scent you like!
2. You can place the mixture into an old deodorant tube to use!

## Share It Out

**Share on social media:** Make a label and name for your deodorant. Ask your family members to try your deodorant. What do they think? Does it work for them? Tag your favorite deodorant brand and see what they think of your marketing!

Use the hashtags:

#DIYDeodorant  
#ProjectExploration  
#StemAtHome

**Share via PE's website:** Students who complete STEM@home activities and share what they learned with the PE team via our website will earn points which can be traded in for cash prizes at the Explore Store. Your project number is 217. Learn more at [www.projectexploration.org/explore-store](http://www.projectexploration.org/explore-store)

### Join PE's character contest!

Design a STEM character who will lead kids through activities and be featured on our website and in our STEMbooks. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top 3 finalists. Learn more at: [www.projectexploration.org/character-contest](http://www.projectexploration.org/character-contest).

