

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR08 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Squishy Physics Field Trips¹ ERIC R. WEEKS, GIANGUIDO CIANCI, Emory University, PIOTR HABDAS, St. Joseph's University — Our laboratory studies soft condensed matter, which means we investigate squishy materials such as foams, emulsions, and colloidal suspensions. These materials include common things such as peanut butter, toothpaste, mayonnaise, shampoo, and shaving cream. We have conducted several field trips for grade school students, where they come to our laboratory and play with squishy materials. They do both hands-on table-top projects and also look at samples with a microscope. We have also developed some of these activities into labs appropriate for first-year college students. Our first goal for these activities is to show students that science is fun, and the second goal is to get them intrigued by the idea that there are more phases than just solids, liquids, and gases.

¹We thank NSF (DMR-0239109) for support for this work.

Eric R. Weeks
Emory University

Date submitted: 20 Nov 2007

Electronic form version 1.4