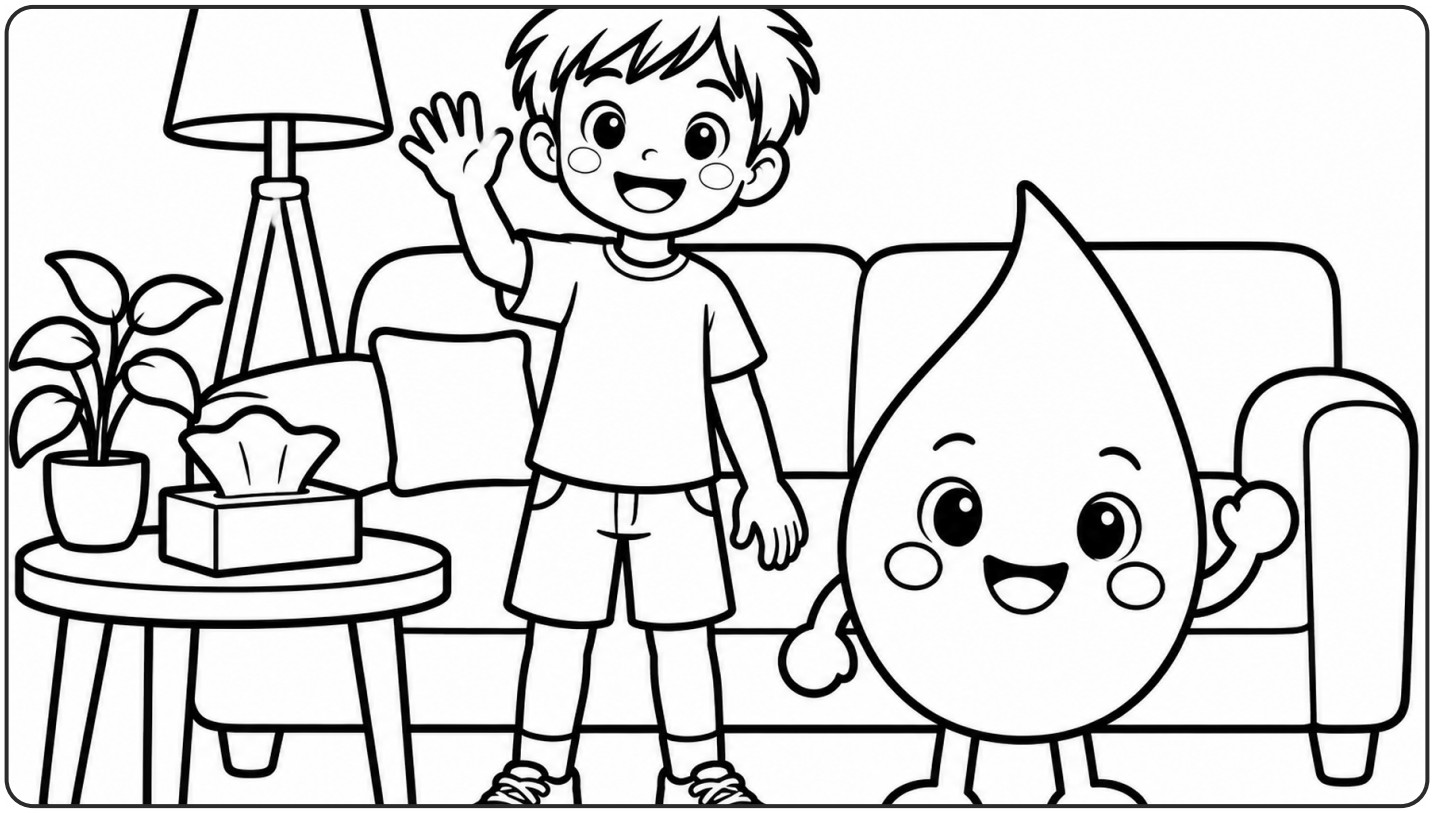
What are boogers made of?

Achoo! Ew, look at that! What are boogers made of?



Why?

1. **Every booger starts as snot.**
   Its real name is mucus. Tiny cells inside your nose make it, all day long. It is mostly water, plus a little salt, some proteins and tiny germ fighters. All mixed together, it is wet and sticky.
2. **Sticky snot catches dust, dirt, pollen and germs.**
   Every time you breathe in, tiny things float into your nose. They land on the sticky snot and get stuck, like fluff on sticky tape. So they stay in your nose, and stay out of your lungs!
3. **Some snot dries into a booger.**
   Tiny hairs called cilia sweep the snot along, like little brooms. Some gets pushed to the front of your nose and starts to dry. The snot, the dust and the dirt clump together. That dry, crusty clump is a booger!

Try it! Sticky tape trap

You need: a piece of tape, a windowsill

1. Put a piece of tape on a windowsill, sticky side up.
2. Look at it the next day.
3. What got stuck?

What happened? Your snot catches things just like that!

Video + more questions:
whywhywhykids.com/boogers

scan with a grown-up