Daybreak
LESSON PLANS

Holiday Experiments: Candy Cane Experiment

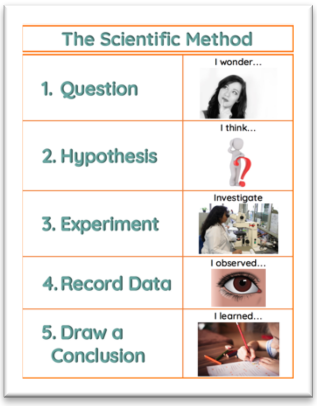
General Information

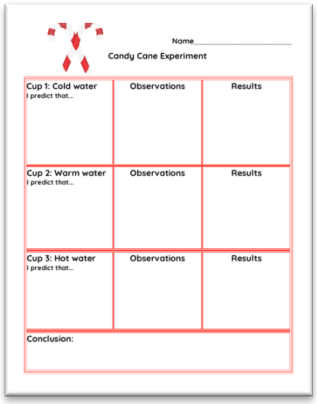
Grade Levels: K-3
Total Duration: 30-60 min.
Area(s) of Focus: Science, Holidays, Writing
Materials: cold water, warm water, hot water, 3 mini candy canes and 3 clear cups for each child or for each small group or 1 set for the entire class to do together, experiment printable for each student

Activity Description

This experiment can be done K-3. For younger grades, the experiment can be done as a class and the teacher can fill in the writing as the class discusses together. Observations and drawings can be done independently or in small groups.

Candy Cane Experiment





1. Tell the class they are going to be scientists today and discuss the steps to the scientific method.
2. Show them the materials and tell them they are going to put a candy cane in each liquid to see what happens.
3. Either as a class or independently, make predictions about what will happen for each cup. Predictions can be drawn or written depending on the grade level.
4. Place one candy cane in each cup. Have students observe and write or draw their observations. Suggest using their senses. What do they see? Do they smell anything? What does it feel like? You may want to have a short activity like reading a holiday book while they wait for anything to happen and check back when done reading the book.
5. Have students write or draw their results.
6. Discuss as a class what happened in each cup and why the results may have been different in each water temperature.
7. Come up with a conclusion as a class or have students write their own conclusion.

After the Activity...

Eat candy canes! Have students bring home their observations to explain to their families and suggest having them experiment with candy canes and other liquids.

Daybreak
LESSON PLANS

Holiday Experiments: Gingerbread Experiment

General Information

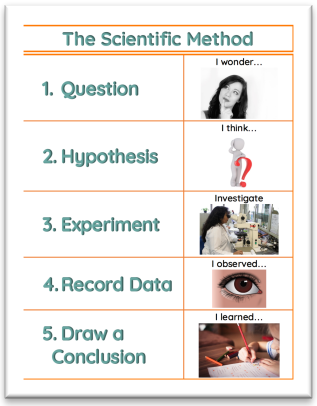
Grade Levels: K-3
Total Duration: 30-60 min.
Area(s) of Focus: Science, Holidays, Writing
Materials: small gingerbread cookie, clear cup of water (1 set for each child or small group or 1 set for the entire class to do together), experiment printable for each student

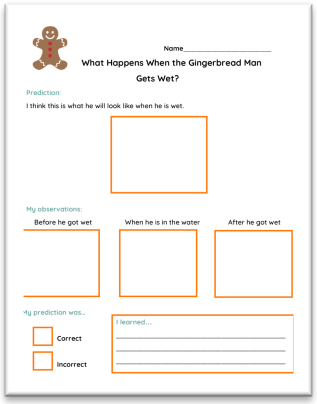
Activity Description

This experiment can be done K-3. For younger grades, the experiment can be done as a class and the teacher can fill in the writing as the class discusses together. Observations and drawings can be done independently or in small groups.

Gingerbread Experiment

You should read a version of the Gingerbread Man story for students to have some background as to why the gingerbread man doesn't want to go in the water.





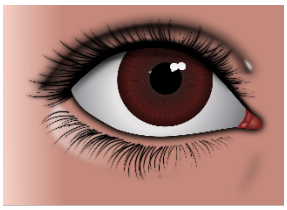
1. Tell them they are going to be scientists today and discuss the steps to the scientific method.
2. Refer to the Gingerbread Man story. Remember when he had to cross the water and he didn't want to get wet? Why wouldn't he want to get wet? Show them the materials and tell them they are going to put a gingerbread man cookie in water to see what happens.
3. Either as a class or independently, make predictions about what will happen. Predictions can be drawn or written depending on the grade level.
4. Have students observe and write or draw their observations before the cookie is placed in the water.
5. Place one gingerbread cookie in the cup. Have students observe and write or draw their observations when the cookie is in the water. Suggest using their senses. What do they see? Do they smell anything? What does it feel like? You may want to have a short activity like reading a holiday book while they wait for anything to happen and check back when done reading the book.
6. Have students write or draw their results of what happened after he got wet.

7. Discuss as a class what happened to the gingerbread man. Why does the gingerbread man want to avoid going in the water?
8. Students mark if their prediction was correct or not.
9. They write what they learned from the experiment. **Kindergarten:** Come up with a conclusion together as a class and they can copy a short sentence the teacher writes on the board.

After the Activity...

Read many gingerbread man stories and compare and contrast them. Bake gingerbread cookies and have them disappear from the oven and "run away"!

The Scientific Method

1. Question	I wonder… 
2. Hypothesis	I think… 
3. Experiment	Investigate 
4. Record Data	I observed… 
5. Draw a Conclusion	I learned… 

Name_____

Candy Cane Experiment

Cup 1: Cold water I predict that...	Observations	Results
Cup 2: Warm water I predict that...	**Observations**	**Results**
Cup 3: Hot water I predict that...	**Observations**	**Results**
Conclusion:		

Name_____

What Happens When the Gingerbread Man Gets Wet?

Prediction:

I think this is what he will look like when he is wet.

My observations:

Before he got wet	When he is in the water	After he got wet

My prediction was...

☐ Correct

☐ Incorrect

I learned...

_____

_____

_____