

Edible Asteroids Part II

Objectives

- Students will create their own edible asteroid
- Students will review gained knowledge from the Apophis activities
- Students will discuss healthy and unhealthy snacks

Suggested Grade Level

K-3rd

Subject Area

Science

Timeline

One class period

Standards

Science as Inquiry

- Abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry
- Understanding about scientific inquiry

Background

The science behind this activity is associated with Edible Asteroids Part I. In Part I, students received an asteroid sample and analyzed its physical characteristics. In this activity, students will create their own asteroid and then analyze its physical characteristics.

This lesson, like Part I, is primarily for honing the students' observation skills in the scientific process. This skill, above all others, should be the major focus of these two lessons.

Materials

Hot plate, sauce pan for dipping apples, Popsicle sticks, caramel, wax paper, toppings for the asteroid, such as peanuts, Oreo cookies, Nerds candy, graham crackers, crushed peanut M&M's or whole plain M&M's, etc.

Lesson

1. Review with students the topics of asteroids and Apophis.
2. Introduce the lesson. Today they will be making their own edible asteroids and drawing a picture of it.
3. Start by melting the caramel in the pan.
4. Give each student a sheet of wax paper approximately 1 square foot.
5. Give each student an asteroid (apple) and Popsicle stick.

6. Have the students place the Popsicle stick into the apple where the stem is on the apple. For younger students get an adult helper to do this.
7. One by one, have each student dip their asteroid (apple) into the melted caramel. For younger students the teacher will do this.
8. After the caramel has stopped dripping from the apple, have students roll their asteroid in a topping, completely covering the asteroid.
9. Place the asteroid on the wax paper to cool.
10. While the asteroid is cooling, have students draw and color their asteroid. (The teacher may want to have the students complete the worksheet before eating their asteroids due to the possible mess the students may make.)
11. Eat and enjoy their asteroid.
12. While the students are eating their apples, you can discuss the pictures of their asteroids.

Extensions

As an alternative to apples, you can use scoops of ice cream. Put the Popsicle stick in the scoop of ice cream and then freeze the ice cream. Make sure the ice cream is **extremely** frozen before adding the toppings.

Evaluation/Assessment

Analyze the picture of the asteroid. Did the student draw a good representation?

Resources

National Science Standards: <http://www.nap.edu/readingroom/books/nses/>

Asteroid Analysis Worksheet

Name _____

Date _____

In the work space below, draw and label your asteroid sample. Make sure you use correct colors when drawing your sample.



1. Describe your asteroid.
