

Project FOCUS
Best Lessons
SECOND GRADE

Title of Lesson: States of Matter with Playdough

Theme: Physical Science

Unit Number: 1 **Unit Title:** Properties of Matter

Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter code):

S2P1a

Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):

Habits of Mind

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

Content (key terms and topics covered):

Matter, Mass, Solid, Liquid, Physical Properties, Senses, Observations

Learning Activity (description in steps)

Abstract (limit 100 characters): The purpose of this lesson is for students to investigate the properties of solids and liquids.

Details: We reviewed the definition of matter and then the three states of matter: solid, liquid, and gas. I then told them we were making a mystery matter and had the students all sit in a circle on the floor. I then brought out flour, salt, food coloring, and water and asked them to classify each ingredient as a solid, liquid, or gas. I mixed all the ingredients together until it was a thick consistency. I had made a batch of playdough the night before and divided it into Ziploc bags. I gave them the bags with playdough to play with at their desks. I then divided up the newly made playdough and distributed it to them as well. They were able to tell the differences between the solid and liquid ingredients and the solid product.

Materials Needed (type and quantity): [Click here to enter text.](#)

2 Cups Salt

2 Cups Water

4 Cups Flour

Wooden Spoon

Large Mixing Bowl

Ziploc Bags

Wax Paper

Food Coloring

Measuring Cups

Notes and Tips (general changes, alternative methods, cautions): [Click here to enter text.](#)

Make a batch the night before and go ahead and divide it up. Make sure to put down wax paper at each students' desk because it can get messy. The demonstration was exciting for the students because they got to see the liquid and solid ingredients turn into a solid product.

Sources/References:

- 1) [Click here to enter text.](#)
- 2) [Click here to enter text.](#)
- 3) [Click here to enter text.](#)