

**Project FOCUS
Best Lessons
FIFTH GRADE**

Title of Lesson: Voluminous Jell-O

Theme: Physical Science

Unit Number: **Unit Title:** Matter/ Chemical and Physical Changes

Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter codes):

S5CS2

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):

volume

Learning Activity (Description in Steps)

Abstract (limit 100 characters): Use Jell-o to learn about volume and how matter fits into containers.

Details: 1)Prepare Jello overnight. Keep the Jell-o 1-2 inches thick. 2) Cut the Jello into equal-sized cubes. 3)Allow students now to take the cubes and try to place them into differently shaped containers; be sure that they count and record the number of cubes going in. 4)Encourage students to improvise and problem solve if they are faced with a situation where entire cubes don't fit perfectly; let students cut cubes in half, fourths, etc. to make them fit better

Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):

1)Store bought Jell-O 2)Warm tap water 3)Flat bottomed brownie tin for initial "setting" of Jell-O 4)Variously shaped containers--tuberware, baking dishes, etc. 5)Plastic knives, 1 per pair/group 6)Rulers, measuring tapes--one each per group

Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):

Be careful with the plastic knives!

Sources/References:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)