

# Yummy Adaptations

## Grade Level: 3

Authors: Boehm, Michael; Amnah, Summer

### References:

### Benchmarks & Objective:

- LS-1: Compare the life cycles of different animals including birth to adulthood, reproduction, and death.
- LS-2: Relate animal structures to their specific survival functions

### Materials:

- Gummy worms (**worms**), peanuts (**nuts**), raisins (**bugs**), Oreos (**dirt**), M&Ms (**bugs**), sunflower seeds (**seeds**)
- Plastic containers (*one for each student*)
- Plastic spoons (*one for each student*)
- Small and large tweezers (*one for each student*)
- Toothpicks (*one for each student*)
- Science journals

### Target Concept:

To introduce the concept of how an animal adapts in order to survive. Specifically, discuss what tools an animal needs in order to hunt, forage, collect and eat food.

### Initial Introduction:

1. The lesson should begin with a discussion on the different tools and animal uses to collect food. You can give examples (either verbal or pictorial) of different animals and their hands/mouths etc. As you're discussing each animal ask the students what types of foods could be collected and eaten.

### Procedure:

#### Day Zero

1. Crush the Oreos and place them in each plastic container
  - a. You should have deep enough containers that the students need to dig a little in order to get all the food
2. Place a few of each candy in the plastic containers.
  - a. Do not put them all on top of the dirt. Place some in the dirt

#### Day One

1. Pass out the students' science journals

2. Pass out the containers, spoons, tweezers, and toothpicks
3. Tell the students that they should record their findings for the following questions:
  - a. What tool works best for digging?
  - b. What tool is best suited for collecting each type of candy
  - c. Name an animal with a mouth/beak similar to each tool
  - d. What types of food can that animal collect using its mouth/beak?

**Target Observations:**

- Animals have different tools for collecting food
- Those tools are best suited for the animal's environment

**Final Target Concept:**

The students should have learned that animals (including humans) use very different tools to collect and eat food. Some animals have tools for digging where others have tools for cracking and breaking. The students should have learned that hands/mouths/beaks etc. are all best suited for the surroundings.

**Summary & Discussion:**

Review the various tools for collection of food (hands, beaks etc.) and how not all tools are best suited for collecting all food. Ask the students to think about animals at the zoo and how each animal collects its food. Have the students share their thoughts and ideas. Also, have the students discuss the environments in which those animals live and talk about how having different collection methods may not work well.