Investigating Tooth Decay

What You Need

- paper plate
- small jar
- eggshell
- bread
- vinegar
- graph paper
- tape
- crackers
- goggles

Find Out
Do this activity to see how tooth decay affects teeth.

Process Skills
Observing
Communicating
Predicting

Time
- 30 minutes to get started
- two weeks of observation
What To Do

1. Place a cracker on the paper plate. Add vinegar.
   
   **Safety!** Do not eat or touch the cracker.

2. **Observe** what happens.

3. Put an eggshell in the jar. Pour a small amount of vinegar into the jar. Half of the eggshell should be covered in vinegar. Put a small piece of bread in the jar.
   
   **Safety!** Do not eat or touch any of the substances in the jar.

4. **Draw** a picture of the eggshell on the graph paper. Based on what happened to the cracker, **predict** what will happen to the eggshell.

5. **Observe** the eggshell every day for two weeks. **Record** what happens in the chart and **color** in squares of the graph paper to show holes in the egg.

6. Compare your picture with others.
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<th>Date</th>
<th>How the Eggshell Looks</th>
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Conclusions

1. How is the eggshell like a tooth?

2. How did the eggshell change? How can teeth change if they are not cared for?

New Questions

1. How could you have stopped the changes in the eggshell?

2. Write a new question you have about tooth decay.
Activity Journal
Lesson 1 • Teeth

Name ____________________________

ACTIVITY

Using Teeth to Speak

Write your group’s flash card letter(s).

__________________________

Write a list of words that use your letter(s).

Word List:

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________
Activity Journal
Lesson 1 • Teeth

Name __________________________

What Happened
1. When could you speak your words clearly?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

2. When couldn’t you? Why not?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

What If
Name some words made up of sounds that don’t use teeth. Hint: Babies say them!

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
Activity Journal
Lesson 2 • Taking Care of Your Teeth

Name __________________________

ACTIVITY

Flossing Teeth

Show how the cream cheese looked on the comb at first.

Use a crayon to draw the cream cheese on the comb.

Show how the comb looked after you used the paper towel.

Show how the comb looked after you used the yarn.

UNIT D • Chapter 2: Caring for Your Teeth
Activity Journal
Lesson 2 • Taking Care of Your Teeth

Name ________________________

What Happened

1. Did the paper towel clean all the cream cheese from the comb?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

2. How did the yarn help clean the comb?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

What If

How is this activity like brushing and flossing your teeth?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
**Activity Journal**
Lesson 3 • Going to the Dentist

Name ______________________

**Activity**

**Fixing Teeth with Fillings**

**Draw** the tooth you made.

**Draw** a cavity in the tooth.

**Color** in the cavity with a yellow crayon.
What Happened

1. Why was the yellow clay put in the hole?

2. How was this activity like a dentist fixing a cavity?

What If

What would happen if the hole in the tooth got bigger and bigger?