

Lesson Plan

Science – Digestive System Grade Five

Curriculum Outcome (s):

Life Science: Meeting Basic Needs and Maintaining a Healthy Body

Students will be expected to describe the structure and function of the major organs of the digestive system (302-5a)

Objectives for the Lesson (the students will be able to...):

- ☐ Students will gain a basic understanding of the major functions and organs of the digestive system
- ☐ Students will see the process of digestion in a simple model

Materials:

- ☐ Banana
- ☐ Saltine crackers
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Large & small bowl
- ☐ Potato masher
- ☐ Large Ziploc bag
- ☐ scissors
- ☐ Pantyhose (1' length, including foot)
- ☐ 2L pop bottle (with top cut off and small hole in the bottom)

Procedure

Beginning:

- ☐ We will start by doing an informal pre-assessment asking the students questions such as:
 - “What do you think happens to your food after you eat it?”
 - “What is digestion?”
 - “What parts of the body do you think are involved in digestion?”

Middle:

- ☐ We will then begin our digestive system demonstration. This is a fun, interactive, and “gross” demonstration and is intended to get the students excited and interested in the digestive system. Throughout the demonstration we will be calling up students to come and help ‘digest our food’.
 1. Put a banana and some saltine crackers [the food] into a large bowl [the mouth].
 2. Mash the banana and crackers with a potato masher [the teeth].
 3. Add water [water and saliva] and continue to mash the mixture into a slurry.
 4. Pour the mixture from the bowl into the baggy [stomach].
 5. Zip up the baggy and continue to (gently) squeeze the mixture in the baggy, simulating the action of the stomach muscles breaking down food particles. Walk around the classroom with the baggy, allowing students to help with this step.
 6. Cut a corner off of the bottom of the baggie, and insert this open corner into a one foot length of panty hose [small intestine]. Ask someone to volunteer to hold the panty