

**Project FOCUS  
Best Lessons  
FIFTH GRADE**

**Title of Lesson:** Cell: The basis of LIFE

**Theme:** Life Science

**Unit Number:** 1      **Unit Title:** Cells and Microorganisms

**Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter codes):**

S5P1

S5L3

S5L4

**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):**

Plant Cells and Animal Cells. Different organelles in each. The function of each organelle. What makes tissues? What makes Organs?

**Learning Activity (Description in Steps)**

**Abstract (limit 100 characters):** We first did a powerpoint describing different types of cells, experiment (cookies), and worksheet.

**Details:** We first presented a powerpoint. The powerpoint described the difference between an animal and a plant cell, it also talked about what a tissue is composed of, what an organ is composed of. After the presentation the kids had to fill in the blanks of major words we talked about in the presentation. We also gave each student cookies and we let them build their own cells. The frosting for example was the cytoplasm, the twisters represented the cell membrane. Different small candies represented the mitochondria, Endoplasmic reticulum, vacuoles, and etc. After the students did this activity if there was time left the kids would be working on a wordsearch and draw an animal cell.

**Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):**

Cookies (17)

Twisters (2 bags)

Gummy worms (2 bags)

Icing (3 cans)

Reese's (2 bags)

M &M's (2 bags)

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

I think this experiment was way too expensive. An alternative we could have done was to let the kids make a cell, but with paper maybe. I think we had a lot of things planned for just one day. The kids were only interested in making the cookies and eating them. The wordsearch was a bit difficult, but I don't think they took interest in it that much. Maybe if we had just done the powerpoint and then the cookie experiment it would have been better. There really was not any safety precautions except for the kids getting a sugar high and being really hyper the rest of the day, due to all the sugar in the cookies and the candies.

**Sources/References:**

- 1) <http://blog.hmns.org/?tag=candy-cells>
- 2) <http://www.kathimitchell.com/cells.html>
- 3)