Kelley S. Smith
Grade: Pre-K
Sense of Taste

**Taste and See**

**Objective:** This lesson serves to make students aware of their sense of taste and introduce the concept of a graph.

**Materials/Time Required:**
1. 3 common flavors of Kool-Aid/3 serving pitchers
2. 1 small bathroom size cup for tasting per student
3. Food coloring
4. 3 different colors of construction paper to match color of Kool-Aid
5. Allow approx. 10-15 min. preparation and 20 min. for actual lesson

**Background/Procedure:**
This lab is not actually a QCC lesson plan, but the concept is a QCC standard for Pre-K students. To begin, make 3 pitchers of different flavored Kool-Aid, I suggest cherry, grape and orange as children can most easily distinguish these flavors. Next, use food coloring to change the Kool-Aid color (your choice of color). I was able to find “Magic Kool-Aid” that already had the color changed. By serving the students a different color from the flavor it forces them to rely on their sense of taste instead of associating the flavor with a color.

Next, choose a piece of construction paper to match the color you made the Kool-Aid. Cut small shapes such as circles, triangles or squares out of the colored paper (make enough for each student to have one of each color). Create a graph on another sheet of paper or poster depending on how large you want to make it and draw the flavors at the bottom of the graph. See below:

![Graph Diagram]

Serve the students one flavor at the time. After they have tasted one, give them the colored shape that matches the color they drank. Ask them to place their shape in the column that matches the flavor they tasted (One at a time). Allow them to glue/adhere it to the chart. Explain to the students that they created a graph and that each circle, etc. represents what one of them thought. Repeat this for each flavor of Kool-Aid.

**Suggestions to Teacher:**
This lab will have the students extremely excited, so I suggest working with as small a number of children as possible. Also, I would hang the final results of the graph. This will allow the students more time to see the graph and it will make them proud of their work. Also, I would follow this lesson up with one on mixing colors, because my students were very interested how I changed the color.

**Possible Questions:**

1. Ask the students by looking at the graph, which flavor the most/least people thought it was.

2. Possibly could ask why they thought they got it wrong.