

G T Y

Georgia Teachers of the Year Association

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“Promising Practices Classroom Activity”

Title of Activity: Mad Scientist Day!

Recommended to use with this number of students: 20-25

Content Area: Science / Matter & Energy Grade Level(s): 2 (can be adapted for older grades)

Match to Georgia Standard(s): S2P1. Students will investigate the properties of matter and changes that occur in objects.

S2CS3. Students will use tools and instruments for observing, measuring, and manipulating objects in scientific activities.

S2CS4. Students will use the ideas of system, model, change, and scale in exploring scientific and technological matters.

S2CS5. Students will communicate scientific ideas and activities clearly.

S2CS6. Students will be familiar with the character of scientific knowledge and how it is achieved.

S2CS7. Students will understand important features of the process of scientific inquiry.

Note: Use the remainder of this page and up to one additional page for describing the activity.

Mad Scientist Day

Begin the day identifying what a scientist is and their role in our community.

Mad Scientist day is a thematic day planned to immerse second grade students into the matter and energy science standards. Throughout the day, students will learn the role of a scientist and the process of performing an experiment. Students will learn the three states of matter and how energy can be added or taken away from matter in order to change it. The day is intended to allow students the flexibility to experiment with new learning and apply it in different contexts. In addition, the day is planned to include parent volunteers and increase their involvement.

A- 3 States of Matter Bill Nye the Science Guy Video Clip

M- What are the 3 States of Matter? How are they similar? How are they different? How can they change? Specimen Jar adjectives- students will use their 5 senses to describe a variety of “specimens” to prepare them for the observations they will conduct in the work period activities.

W- Students will perform the following science experiments. They will record the materials and their hypothesis. They will record their observations throughout each step of the experiment.

Finally, they will draw conclusions at the end of the experiment. It is important to constantly identify the state of matter of each component and discuss why it is categorized as that state.

Using scientific vocabulary describe the materials and what type of energy is added or removed in order to change it.

Experiments performed:

It's Alive! Monster Toothpaste - Using hydrogen peroxide mixture and yeast mixture to create a growing mixture.

Popping Candy Explosions- Using soda and Pop Rocks to create a gas and blow up a balloon.

Monster Goo Frank N' Hair- A recipe that uses physical changes to create a delicious treat!

S- Conclusion- What are other ways we can change matter? What would you like to do differently in these experiments if we do them again? Share your conclusions.