

Core Sampling with Cupcakes

By

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Objective- Students will: Identify a core sample Create some core samples using straws and cupcakes Draw a cross section of their cupcake based on their cupcake core samples

Introduction- holding up a core sample, ask the class if anyone knows what it is.

Construction- Using student responses create a list of ideas about the core sample. Include where it came from and its potential uses. Show students an illustration of a soil horizon and ask the students how do the oil companies know this is how the underground looks.

Pass out data sheets -each sheet should have an area to draw the top of the cupcake (noting where each of the core samples were taken), how each core sample looked, and what each student thinks the inside of their cup cake looks like based on their core samples.

Pass out straws- three straws for every two students. Have students cut the straws in half.

Using the straws, each student will take core samples in the cupcake. Students will document their work on the data sheet. When the students have finished filling out the data sheet, have them cut the cupcake in half and see if their work is accurate.

Comprehension- Instructor will walk around the room asking the working pairs about their core samples and their uses.

Closure- Students will perform a journal entry detailing the use of core samples and where they can be used.

Resources and References:

Core sample provided by Western States Petroleum Association

Lesson plan adopted from Corkie Neuman's "Core Sampling" at St. Thomas More Elementary