

Investigating Starch

Activity Summary

Students learn about energy by experimenting with foods that contain starch and simple sugars. This activity fits well with a wider discussion about photosynthesis and the key role that plants play, as well as lessons about food energy.

Class time: 30 minutes

Grade level: 3-5

Activity Summary

The activity description is on the WONDERWISE website:

<http://wonderwise.unl.edu/02teach/afrplact.pdf>

NOTES:

- The students must chew the crackers completely into paste for this to work.
- During the introduction, consider letting students sample all the food items that will be tested. Otherwise, they tend to be distracted by testing food that they are not allowed to eat.

After doing the activity, ask these questions:

- What do you notice?
- Why do you think this happened?
- What questions do you still have?