

My First Science Songs

Lesson Plans: Math & Music

Materials:

Books – From Seed to Apple Tree with accompanying CD

Apples: Red, Yellow and Green – pre-sliced in half OR slice in front of the class

Spoons and forks (plastic may work well) or wooden toothpicks for extracting seeds from apples.

Mural paper labeled with a Red apple, Yellow apple and Green Apple for graphing

Brown marker

Crock pot

Ingredients for applesauce:

12 large apples, cored and cut in chunks

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar

1 teaspoon cinnamon

1 cup water

1 tablespoon lemon juice

Objectives:

- Students will identify the stages in the life cycle of an apple.
- Students will work together to count and graph apple seeds.
- Students will work together to measure and create applesauce.
- Students will respond to music through movement.

Pre-Reading: Ask students if they like apples. What is their favorite way to eat an apple? Do they know where apples come from? Does anyone have an apple tree in their yard or know where an apple tree might grow?

Engagement: Share the book **From Seed to Apple Tree with the accompanying CD**. Ask children to LISTEN and LOOK carefully as they learn more about how apples grow.

Activity:

1. Invite students to recall the images in the book. Where does an apple come from? How does it start to grow from a seed? Then what's next.
2. Show the students one of the apples. What is inside the apple? Seeds? Cut the apple open to show the seeds. What comes from the apple seed? So, an apple tree grows from a seed, blossoms appear, apples grow on the tree, and more apple seeds are inside the apple to grow more apple trees! Discuss the cycle.
3. Ask students how many seeds they think are in each apple to grow apple trees? Do they think all apples have the same number of seeds or a different number of seeds? Can they predict how many might be in each apple? Invite them to find out! Divide students into groups and give each group one apple of each color – Red, Yellow and Green. Apples should be pre-sliced in half for this exercise.
4. With music playing, invite students to use the forks and spoons to gently dig out the seeds from each color apple starting with the red one... then yellow... then green. One at a time keeping the seeds of each apple separate, ask students to count the seeds and come up to the graph to draw a brown dot for each seed in that apple, creating a line graph.
5. **Transition:** After all seeds are charted and counted, gather around the chart to discuss. Which apples had the most seeds? Which had the least seeds? Was your prediction right? Did all of the red apples have the same amount of seeds? How about yellow? Green? Put seeds in little baggies and divide among students to take home to plant. You can plant some at school, too!

Closure: Together, cut the apples into chunks, rinse them and load them into the crockpot with the rest of the ingredients shown above left. Cook on High for 3-4 hours or on Low for 8-10 hours. The smell will fill your classroom! Enjoy some warm applesauce later in the day or the next day as you talk about the cycle of the apple tree.

