"You Are What You Eat...part two"

Food Science Activity

MATERIALS

- **Several pre-packaged foods**
- **Balance**
- **Student data sheet**

S.S.S. Addressed

S.C.A.	1.3
S.C.H.	1.3
M.A.A.	4.3
M.A.B.	1.3 3.3

How much are you paying for your trash?

Not all prepackaged foods are created equal. This activity is designed to allow your students to explore math and science from a consumer's point of view.

Students will be collecting and calculating a variety of data about the prepackaged foods they are assigned. Since students will be eating their foods as a part of the lesson, this high-interest activity should provide a solid bridge between the subjects of math and science.

There are several viable extension activities that could be performed using food as a subject. Comparing quantities of plastics to papers in a piece of food; measuring and comparing actual masses and volumes printed on labels to actual student-measured values; etc.

How much trash do you make?

Consumer science activities that can be connected to environmental issues as data leads to discussions of amounts of trash generated daily or monthly per person, recycling habits, alternative packaging, etc..

Activity Directions

Students begin the activity by finding an accurate mass for their entire container of food. At that point, students are to predict how those grams will be distributed between edible and non-edible. A possible extension at this point will involve discussions about what really counts as "trash".

When satisfied with their predictions, they are to open their packages, separating the entire package into piles (edible, non-edible)

Students are then to find the mass of the individual packaging materials and edible portions, recording all data on the provided student data sheets.

At that point, the rest of the data will be calculated from the measured and recorded values found on the data table.

When all data is recorded, have student groups graph the

"You Are What You Eat...part two" Student Activity Sheet

Students will use the data table below to organize and calculate data about their assigned piece of foods:

	Column A	Column B		Column C		Column D		Column E	Column F	Column G
FOOD	TOTAL PRICE	STARTING TOTAL MASS (g)		EDIBLE MASS (g)		INEDIBLE MASS (g)		EDIBLE PRICE PER GRAM (dollars)	INEDIBLE PRICE PER GRAM (dollars)	How many grams of trash would be generated by this product if you were to eat one of these a day for an entire year?
		pre-diction	actual	pre-diction	actual	pre-diction	actual