

Lesson 2: Classifying Mushrooms

Enduring Understanding:

- Mushrooms are good and good for me!

Lesson Objectives

- Students will summarize the key supporting details and ideas of a passage.
- Students will use the five senses to describe the characteristics and attributes of different mushrooms.
- Students will classify four different kinds of mushrooms.

New Vocabulary

Mushroom varieties:

1. White button
2. Crimini
3. Portabella
4. Shiitake
5. Oyster
6. Enoki
7. Beech
8. Maitake



Mushroom Madness!



Materials

- PowerPoint Lesson 2: Name That Mushroom!
- K-W-L chart started in the previous lesson
- Enjoy the Mighty Mushroom Handout
- Mushroom Investigation Handout
- “Mushroom Varieties” video (linked in PowerPoint or available at <https://youtu.be/ze4om166ru8>)
- Projector

For Mystery Bag Activity:

- 1 of each of the following varieties of fresh mushroom (If you have a large class, we suggest using more mushrooms and bags.):
 1. White Button
 2. Crimini/Portobello
 3. Shiitake
 4. Oyster
- 4 Paper bags

For Mushroom Investigations Activity:

- 1 of each of the following varieties of fresh mushroom per group of 2-3 students
 1. White Button
 2. Crimini/Portobello
 3. Shiitake
 4. Oyster
- One plastic bag per group of 2-3 students



Activity Session

Opening: K-W-L Chart & Mystery Bag Activity

- Use lesson 2 PowerPoint to guide students through the lesson.
- Remind students that yesterday we learned about how mushrooms are grown and how they get from the farm to our tables.
- Review the K-W-L Chart started in the previous lesson and have students add what they have learned to the “L” section of the chart.
- Explain that today we will be learning how to classify mushrooms.
- (Prior to class) Place the four different types of mushrooms in four different brown paper bags. Students should not be able to see through the bags. Each bag should contain one of the following types of mushrooms:
 1. White button
 2. Cremini/portabella
 3. Oyster
 4. Shiitake
- Have students volunteer to reach into the bags and feel the contents without looking inside.
- Direct students to describe what they feel in as much detail as possible and record their descriptions on chart paper.
 1. Ask prompting questions about the size, shape, texture, etc. of the mushroom.
- Once the class has recorded their observations of the contents of each bag, tell students that we will try to guess the type of mushroom contained in each at the end of the lesson.

Part 1: Close Reading

- Introduce students to the article in the “Enjoy the Mighty Mushroom” handout and read section 1, “Healthy on the Plate, Gentle on the Planet” (displayed on slide 5 of the PowerPoint presentation) as a class (older students can read independently).



Mushroom Madness!



- Remind students of the steps of Close Reading:
 1. First Read: Read to determine the “gist” of the passage and summarize the main idea and supporting details.
 2. Second Read: ask students to try to identify the author’s purpose. Why was this handout created?
 3. Third Read: How can this information be used in our every-day lives?
- Complete the close reading chart on the PowerPoint or a separate piece of chart paper

Part 2: Mushroom Investigation

- (Prior to class) Place one of each variety of mushroom in plastic bags (4 mushrooms in total per bag). The number of bags you’ll need will depend on class size but assume one bag per 2-3 students.
- Group students in pairs or groups of three and distribute plastic bags containing the four different types of mushrooms along with the “Mushroom Investigations” student recording sheet.
- Direct students to record their observations and descriptions of the mushrooms based on their characteristics and attributes (size, color, texture).
- Once students have recorded their descriptions, ask several students to share their observations with the class.
- Using the PowerPoint slides, show the “Mushroom Varieties” video linked in PowerPoint or available at <https://youtu.be/ze4om166ru8>). After viewing the video, ask students to add additional observations to their recording sheets.

Closing

- Return to the “mystery bags” from the beginning of the lesson. Based on the previous observations and what they’ve learned about mushrooms, ask students to classify the type of mushroom contained in each bag. After students make their guesses, reveal the contents of each “mystery bag”.
- As a class, tweet Mushrooms in Schools (@MushroomsK12) with information learned from today’s lesson and any questions that they have about mushrooms.
- Let students know that tomorrow they will be helping the cafeteria staff prepare a delicious mushroom recipe!

