

Dichotomous Candy Key

Objective: Students will learn about scientific classification by sorting candy, discovering its scientific name. This will simulate scientists' use of keys to sort trees and wildlife.

The following list is the candy suggested, and all are included in the key. Students will select 5 from a random mix, key each out, and write the "scientific name" of the candy they identified next to the "common name" below.

Student Worksheet (copy and paste onto a ½ sheet and print for each student)

- A. Gummi bears _____
- B. Saltwater taffy _____
- C. Caramels (square/clear wrapper) _____
- D. Hershey's kiss _____
- E. Starburst _____
- F. Jolly Rancher _____
- G. Jawbreakers (unwrapped) _____
- H. Peppermint disk _____
- I. Butterscotch disk _____
- J. Dum Dums _____
- K. Fireballs (wrapped) _____

Teacher: Set up 11 stations with printed directions as listed below:

Station 1

1a Candy is chewy.....go to 2

1b Candy is hardgo to 7

Station 2

2a Candy is wrapped.....go to 3

2b Candy is not wrapped.....Ursa gummus

Station 3

3a Candy is cylindrical (thick circle).....go to 4

3b Candy is not cylindricalgo to 5

Station 4

4a Wrapper is all white.....Saltus taffinia

4b Wrapper is not all white.....go to 5

Station 5

5a Wrapper is clearCaramellus stickimus

5b Wrapper is not clear.....go to 6

Station 6

6a Wrapper is silverChocolatus cyssan

6b Wrapper is varies in color.....Steorra explodes

Station 7

7a Candy is spherical (a ball)go to 8

7b Candy is not sphericalgo to 9

Station 8

8a Candy is wrappedgo to 11

8b Candy is not wrappedMandibulus crackus

Station 9

9a Wrapper does not tell the flavor.....go to 10

9b Wrapper tells the flavorJoyous rancheria

Station 10

10a Wrapper is clear.....Mintus stripus

10b Wrapper is yellowRanunculus scotchus

Station 11

11a Candy is on a stick.....Moronus moronus

11b Candy is not on a stick.....Spherus combustus

Dichotomous Candy Answer Key

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A. Gummi bears | __ Ursa gummus _____ |
| B. Saltwater taffy | __ Saltus taffinia _____ |
| C. Caramels (square/clear wrapper) | __ Caramellius stickimus _____ |
| D. Hershey's kiss | __ Chocolatus cyssan _____ |
| E. Starburst | __ Steorra explodes _____ |
| F. Jolly Rancher | __ Joyous rancheria _____ |
| G. Jawbreakers (unwrapped) | __ Mandibulus crackus _____ |
| H. Peppermint disk | __ Mintus stripus _____ |
| I. Butterscotch disk | __ Ranunculus scotchus _____ |
| J. Dum Dums | __ Moronus moronus _____ |
| K. Fireballs (wrapped) | __ Spherus combustus _____ |