

The Daily STEM

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STEM in the News

Do you like to eat candy? M&M's announced over the summer that they would be making their candy a little bit healthier. Starting this fall, They are offering M&M's made without artificial dyes or colors. The candies are now colored using natural dyes made from beets, carrots, turmeric, and more. So far, they've found ways to make the red, orange, yellow, and green using these dyes. The blue and brown M&M's have been a lot of trouble. Both require blue dye, but the best natural blue comes from spirulina, a type of algae. That created problems in the machinery that makes the candy, as it requires much more dye, which clogs the machines and makes a mess. The Mars company that makes M&M's also plans to offer Skittles, Starburst, and other candies with natural colors as well. For now, if you want to get some, you'll have to order them online. Do you think this is a good idea? What other ways could candy be made healthier?



Learn more: bit.ly/4hj3vhM and bit.ly/4ya1746

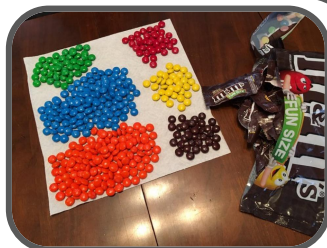
The Puzzle

Bella, Coco, Daisy, Fido, and Spot are five different dogs. Fido and Bella are smaller than Daisy. Bella and Coco are bigger than Spot. Fido is bigger than Spot, but smaller than Bella. Which dog is the smallest?

Decode the answers using $z=a$, $y=b$, $x=c$, $w=d$:
gsv hnzoovhg rh hklg

The Challenge

Did you ever wonder how food companies decide how many of each color should go in a package? For example, some cereals look best when all colors are mixed equally. But look in a box of Apple Jacks and you'll see there are different amounts of green and orange rings. In fact, they only added the green pieces in 1998. Find a package of your favorite multi-colored candy or food, and count how many of each color are in the package. Or just try counting a handful or bowlful to see what ratio the colors are. You might be surprised what you find!



STEM Career: Physicist

Have you ever watched a ball go up in the air and wonder why it comes down? Or what makes light from a distant star get to your eyes? A **Physicist** studies how objects in our world interact with each other. When you push down on your bike pedal, physics explains how the energy from your leg makes the wheel spin and you go forward. Physicists do some pretty cool jobs, and are great at being problem solvers. They can design telescopes, help make cars ride safer, or ensure that the motions by characters in movies look realistic. If you're interested in this type of career, start by learning about how forces, friction, light, and waves work. Be sure to study physics, math, and coding in high school, and get a degree in physics in college. Learn more about what Physics is all about and what it's like to become a Physicist: bit.ly/4yw5syg and bit.ly/46Yd7JS or watch bit.ly/4iLJltR and bit.ly/4dhMOC1



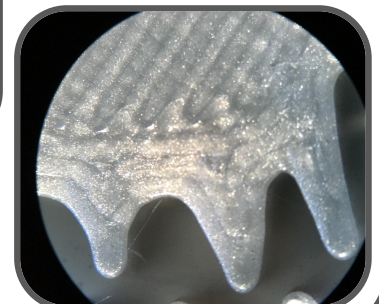
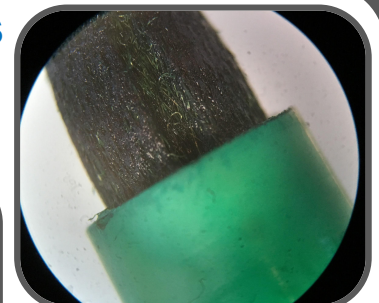
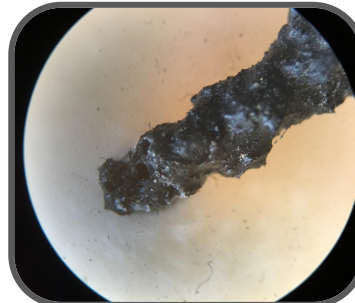
STEM Vocabulary

Artificial: something made by humans instead of occurring naturally in the world

Spirulina: a blue-green algae high in protein, used for coloring or added to food to increase the health benefits

Mystery Photos

Can you identify the mystery items under the microscope?



Decode the answers using $z=a$, $y=b$, $x=c$, $w=d$:

nzipvi, xzmwov drxp,
3w kirmgvw rgvn