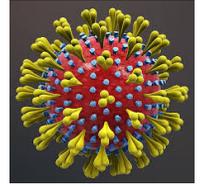




Wednesday, March 25th
JHCM Sequester Fester Weekly Program
Wacky Wednesday Science Activity



RRR DIY Shrinky Dinks!



Description: Parents, do you remember Shrinky Dinks?! Well, it turns out, you didn't need to buy those Shrinky Dink kits and sorry to spoil the fun- it's not magic, it's science! This is a great science and art activity for kids of all ages (and parents!) and all of the materials can be found in your house and your recycling bin!

Materials Needed:

#6 plastic (polystyrene) often used to make salad or to-go containers
Sharpies
Hole punch
Oven
Baking sheet
Tin foil

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees
- Dig through your recycling (or trash) to find #6 plastic. It is often used in salad or to-go containers!
- Wash and dry the plastic
- Draw fun pictures or art on the plastic with sharpies and cut out into the desired shapes. *Remember when making your art the magic / science behind diy shrinky dinks is that they shrink! Up to 1/3 the size!*
- If you want to make your art into a key chain or jewelry, punch a hole in the plastic!
- Line your baking sheet with tin foil and place the finished pieces on the sheet
- Put in the oven for about 3 minutes- keep an eye on them! They will shrink, then curl, then flatten out. When they have flattened out, they are finished!

The Magic/ Science behind diy shrinky dinks!

Polystyrene plastic is made up of a long chain of molecules called polymers. When this plastic is made these polymers are forced to arrange into a straight, orderly configuration. When we place them in the oven the heat lets the polymers release from their structured state and go back to their unorganized, bunched up mess, hence shrinking the size of the plastic.

<https://www.education.com/download-pdf/activity/16032/https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/the-science-of-shrinky-dinks-36715644/>

