

Create your own Dichotomous Key

SBI3U – Diversity of Living Things

<p>Create your own dichotomous key</p>	Assessment	AS
	Cross-curricular	Civics/Env. Science
<p>Big Ideas Investigate, through laboratory and/or field activities or through simulations, the principles of scientific classification, using appropriate sampling and classification techniques;</p> <p>Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of living organisms in terms of the principles of taxonomy and phylogeny.</p>	<p>Specific Expectations</p> <p>2.4 create and apply a dichotomous key to identify and classify organisms from each of the kingdoms</p> <p>3.1 explain the fundamental principles of taxonomy and phylogeny by defining concepts of taxonomic rank and relationship, such as genus, species, and taxon</p>	
<p>Learning Goals</p>		
<p>Description Students will discuss the importance of a dichotomous key in identifying various species. They will create their own dichotomous key using candy. As an extension, they can apply their knowledge to classifying living things.</p>		
<p>Materials Different types of candy, gummies, chocolate Pencil paper</p>	<p>Safety Notes Do not eat the candy (until you have completed your dichotomous key)</p>	

Introduction

Discuss the definition of a dichotomous key. Discuss examples of when one would use a dichotomous key (see handout for more information).

Action

In groups, students will create their own dichotomous key using a variety of different candy. If time allows, students can also re-create their dichotomous key using living things as well.

Consolidation/Extension

Students will share their work with other groups and the teacher.

Extension - students can also re-create their dichotomous key using living things as well.

Resources