QER Experiment – Year 3
The Choc Chip Cookie Fossil Dig

AIM

Students learn the skills of a palaeontologist in unearthing their own chocolate chip cookie fossils.

EQUIPMENT

- packet of stale chocolate chip cookies (ones that have been softened)
- packet of fresh chocolate chip cookies (optional)
- large tub of sand
- small shovels
- paintbrushes
- toothpicks
- napkins

PROCEDURE

1. Bury chocolate chip cookies in the sand.
2. Call students up in small groups to dig for a "fossilised rock" (cookie) with small shovels. Instruct them not to eat the cookie!
3. Each student takes their "fossilised rock" back to their bench and brushes off the sand with their "fossil brush" (paintbrush).
4. They then pick the "fossils" (choc chips) out of their rocks with their "fossil picks" (toothpicks).
5. Discuss the types of fossils represented. True fossils (choc chips) and moulds (indents).
6. Hand out fresh cookies to eat!

NOTES