

WHAT'S IN A MINCE PIE?

SUMMARY

Children explore a range of 'mixtures' presented in a shopping bag and focus their attention on a box of mince pies. They should attempt to separate and identify the ingredients in a mince pie, developing their understanding of mixtures and types of change. Pictorial, photographic or written records of findings are all simple ways for children to explain that there are often mixtures within mixtures.

OBJECTIVES

- To explore and be able to describe a mixture made from solid and liquid ingredients
- To gather, record, classify and present data in a variety of ways to help answer questions

To be able to:

- Understand that some mixtures are permanently changed into new things and others can be separated back to the original ingredients
- Appreciate that there can often be mixtures within mixtures



SCIENCE VOCABULARY

Mixture	Solid	Liquid
Ingredient	Separate	Group
Sort	Classify	Identify
Change	Reversible	Irreversible
Permanent		

RESOURCES (IN BRIEF)

- Mince pies and a jar of sweet mincemeat (these can be bought throughout the year)
- Shopping bag
- Round edged knives
- Teaspoons
- Cocktail sticks
- Hand lens (if available)

Note: A list of mincemeat ingredients found on mince pie/mincemeat packaging.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE/EXPERIENCE

Children should have opportunities to compare and group materials, looking closely at their similarities and differences. They should also have some understanding of how some materials change when they are heated or cooled.