

Renee Cunningham

From Wax to Wonder: Crayons! 60 min

Objective:

Students will be able to understand the process of making crayons.

Big Idea:

How are crayons made?

1. Warm Up / Anticipatory 15 min

Show this [video](#) that goes through the crayon factory. The video does not have narration. As a class, or individually, have students create a timeline/flow chart of the crayon making process.

Resources

- Crayola Crayons <https://youtu.be/3vtJgZFIqpc>

2. Investigation and New Learning 15 min

Read the [WOD](#) and compare the creation of crayons described in the article to what students outlined on the flow chart previously.

Resources

- How many crazy crayon colors can you color with? <http://https://wonderopolis.org/wonder/how-many-crazy-crayon-colors-can-you-color-with>



3. Review & Check for Understanding 30 min

Select an extension activity to allow students a hands-on crayon experience (Many are STEM activities):

- Break piece of crayons into silicone molds (ice cube or muffin trays) and melt in toaster oven or crockpot. Discuss phases of matter, and heat transfer.
- Stacking crayons. Challenge students to stack 2 crayons. Connect with shapes, a circle has no sides or edges.
- Writing prompt: design a new name for a crayon. Describe the specific color of the crayon and how you invented the name. (Could easily be adapted to a digital station with apps that involve video recording).
- Use balance scales to predict and weigh everyday objects and how much they weigh in crayons. Non-standard measurement observations.
- Use coffee filter and 2 pipe cleaners to design a crayon basket. Have a class challenge to see who's basket holds the most.

Note: The components of this lesson could be done in any order as part of the inquiry process.

Standards: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7