

Dollar Store Math / Science

Children construct their conceptions on the basis of their experiences. If students encounter mathematics and science primarily in textbooks, worksheets and tests they come to think of these subjects as having little relevance outside these narrow confines. Also, they tend to generate minimal enthusiasm for the subjects.

The idea here is that math and science are present in everyday objects. More accurately, mathematics and science can be used to make sense of the world we encounter on a daily basis. Dollar Stores can be a good source of materials for active learning experiences that serve important learning targets. When you give students a chance to work with and develop their conceptions using everyday objects and in order to solve a problem they build their understanding in a way that is more extensive and generative.

Your job is to go to a Dollar Store (or someplace like it) and find materials that could be used to facilitate an active learning experience for your students. Describe the experience using the headings listed below. Your description should be sufficiently detailed so that a competent substitute teacher could use your directions successfully.

Activity Title:

Approximate Grade Level:

Subject / Concept Addressed:

Learning Target(s) (EALRs / GLEs optional):

General Idea / description of the activity:

Extensions (optional):

URLs (optional):

Your name:

I am currently developing a Web site devoted to sharing these ideas and thoughts about active learning and its use in classrooms. Do you want to have this activity placed on such a Web site?

Yes or No

If your answer is "Yes," do you want your name to be listed with your idea?

Yes or No

Do you want your e-mail address to be listed with your idea?

Yes or No

Please e-mail your response to Mark Roddy at mroddy@seattleu.edu

The URL for the Dollar Store math Web site, still a work in progress, is <http://fac-staff.seattleu.edu/mroddy/DollarStoreMath/>