

NOVEMBER



Is popcorn more nutritious than chips or other snacks? Compare nutrition labels. How much difference does the brand or variety make?

Which states grow the most corn? Create a way to show this graphically.

Estimate the number of popcorn kernels in a small jar.

Share the task of counting piles of the corn into tens and put in bathroom cups. Make groups of ten cups. How many kernels do you have? Who's estimate as closest?

Estimate the number of kernels on an ear of corn; what strategies were used? Shuck and count—what is the difference between your estimate and the actual number?

Using several different brands of popcorn, record how long it takes until the first kernel pops. During snack, tally the number of pieces you eat and add total for each bag. Compare. SAVE THE UN-POPPED KERNELS.

Using yesterday's total per bag and the number of un-popped kernels, determine the percentage of un-popped vs. popped. Does it vary by brand or variety?

Heated water inside popcorn kernels make them pop. Demonstrate by putting a kernel in a test tube and cover with aluminum foil. Poke a few holes in the foil and hold the tube over a heat source. You should see steam escaping.

Challenge students to determine the smartest popcorn purchase: 8 oz at \$1.99, 16 oz at \$2.99, or 2 lbs at \$4.99.

Make a cloud categorizer and keep it available when outside (waiting for the bus?) <http://smmatideas.blogspot.com/search?q=cloud>

Your teacher hands you a mystery item and asks you to describe it. What are two things you could talk about?

Have everyone privately write down three things they are thankful for. Graph their answers. Analyze.

FREE Engineering curriculum for afterschool! <http://eie.org/engineering-adventures/curriculum-units>

Technology and Farming: <http://sciencenetlinks.com/lessons/modern-technology-and-farming/>

Technology on turkey farms: <http://www.agannex.com/production/technology-and-turkeys>

What holds gravy warm the longest? Heat water to 100 degrees and divide evenly between a paper cup, a foam cup, a metal bowl, and a ceramic bowl. Check and record the temperature every five minutes.

How many articles in today's newspaper involve science in some way? Make a list of topics.

Invite guest speakers from any STEM area for Christmas break. Call Lorrie at 717-771-8564 for ideas.

Happy Thanksgiving!