

"To Make the Best Better"

4-H Youth Development



Discipline: All
Age Level: 8-11
Time: 30 minutes

Next Generation Science Standard : Analyzing and Interpreting Data

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Suitable for Junior
Leaders to teach

Why Orange?

Objective/Success Indicators: Youth will understand why orange is used as a safety color in shooting sports.

Supplies:

Box or 2 of colored toothpicks or plastic Easter eggs in a variety of colors (metallic, camo, regular)
Large piece of paper, Markers
Orange paint (paint some toothpicks/easter eggs orange before the lesson)
For Hide & Seek, orange vests for half the group

Lesson Outline:

There are two activities that are fun and informative for our younger members. Be sure your members have the capability to pick up toothpicks before you start. If they can't pick up toothpicks use plastic Easter eggs.

Toothpick Activity

Ask members to sort a box of multicolored toothpicks into piles by color and then count and record how many toothpicks are in each pile. Mix all the toothpicks together again and scatter them on the ground. For best results dirt, chips, grass work well. If you are doing this indoors you may want to use some shallow trays of materials to scatter the toothpicks. Give the members several minutes to find as many toothpicks as possible. Again have the members sort the toothpicks they collected by color and count the number of toothpicks that were found. Record and review the results.

What color did you find the most of? The least of? On what background was orange the easiest color to spot? What color would you wear to if you want to be seen? Why is it important to be seen? In 1965, states started requiring shooters to wear orange when they are hunting, why?

Example of data chart for toothpick activity:

Toothpick Data	
Beginning colors and numbers	Ending colors and number
Yellow 5	Yellow 3



Half Orange Hide and Go Seek

Instruct half of the members to put on an orange vest. Define areas where members may hide. Select one member to cover his/her eyes and count while the other members hide. The counter must then find the hidden members. As each member is found, they join in on the search for the remaining members.

Who did you find first? Who did you find last? Ask the members if the color of their clothing made them easier or harder to find. How much of their vest was showing? Was it easier to find members in orange vests? If you wanted to be seen what would you wear? What other places do we use color for safety reasons? What colors are used? If not orange, why do you think that color was selected? Name some times when you need to consider the color of your clothing for safety reasons.