Cookie Dig

Materials

- Chocolate chip cookies (Chips Ahoy cookies work well)
- Paper plate
- Napkins
- Toothpicks
- Popsicle sticks

Archaeologists are people who study past peoples through the artifacts they left behind. These objects are often found in the ground. In this activity, the ground is the cookie, and the artifacts are the chocolate chips. Archaeologists have to be very careful while removing artifacts from the ground so as to not break the artifact or hurt any other potential artifacts around it. By removing the chips carefully, and trying to keep the cookie in one piece, you are working on your skills as an archaeologist.

Instructions

1. Place one cookie on the paper plate in front of the archaeologist (this cookie is for digging, not eating.)

2. Use the toothpick or popsicle stick as archaeology tools. The goal is to remove the chocolate chips without breaking the cookie.

3. Using a steady hand, try to chip the cookie away next to the chocolate chip. Being very careful, the chips should be removed in one piece, and without breaking the cookie.

4. Continue to remove the chips until all the chips are removed.

Scaling the activity up:
For those advanced learners, have them try to excavate chips from a softer cookie, as if it was a different type of ground material. Is it harder or easier? What cookie was more similar to clay or sand? What material would be easier to excavate in?