# Science with Skittles (Diffusion) andersoncountylibrary_logo

Objective: The child will learn the properties and definition of *diffusion* at an early elementary school level

Materials: 1 container of Skittles candies

 A half cup of ice water

 A half cup of warm water

 2 white or clear plates

A timer or stopwatch (optional, but usually available on most smartphones)

Procedure:

Have your child sort the Skittles into the colors you want to diffuse. Tip: make sure you use both dark and light colored Skittles for the best contrast.

Arrange the same pattern and color of Skittles on each plate. At the same time, have one person pour the ice water over plate one and the other person pour the hot water over the Skittles on plate two.

Set the timer.

Discuss: Which colors dissolved faster? Why?

From physicscentral.com: Warm water has more *energy* than cold water, which means that molecules in warm water move faster than molecules in cold water. Since the molecules in warm water move around faster, the food coloring spreads out quicker in the warm water than in the cold water.